

DON'T GET SCARED MAY 18TH.

On May 18th many of us earth beings will witness a sight the like of which has never before been seen by men, at least since men have kept a written history of events.

Of a sudden our earth, swinging through space at 65,000 miles per hour, will plunge into the tail of Halley's comet, close to the neck of it.

What will happen? No two scientists agree in detail. They are, however, practically certain there will be no harm done to any creature of the earth, save the harm which fear does.

For those three hours will show to men the most sublime, awe-inspiring display of heavenly fireworks this earth has witnessed since space roared with the primordial flames of creation, the astronomers say.

But, the chances are it will be nothing but light—terrific, but harmless. For our sunlight during those 205 minutes will be filtered through the comet's head or nucleus (the head will be eclipsing the sun) and that head will have just come from a bath in the very flames of the sun.

And it is through such a lens our sunlight must come filtered for three hours and a half May 18th.

We did, indeed, have one slight previous experience with the tail of a comet. On June 30, 1861, we snipped through part of the tail of Tebbet's comet.

Yet, for the experience of seeing that hair severed, the French astronomer Liais journeyed to Rio de Janeiro and set up his instruments.

The moment came. Suddenly Liais saw the sky turn like blood at midday. Then there was a rapid plunge into a lurid, phosphorescent yellow and almost instantly the sky darkened to a coppery green, as if a tornado were approaching.

Scientists all over the earth are warning people to be prepared for strange sights, but not to be frightened.

Says Andre, director of the Lyons observatory: "You must not be astonished if it shows an aspect as strange and stranger than anything ever seen before."

What effect the adventure will have upon the earth is disputed. Comets are little understood. There are instruments which can detect their weight and instruments which partially show their composition.

A recent theory is that the comet nucleus or head is simply an enormous gas lens, and what appears to be a tail is, in reality, only the pencil of concentrated sunlight such as proceeds from the ordinary searchlight.

Under this theory the only effect that will be noticed May 18th will be that the sunshine will fairly burn one. But in the shade it should be fairly comfortable.

If the comet's tail is of gas, at least the gas is much diluted. Some observers fear the deadly cyanogen gas, which, if thick, would stifle all breathing things at once.

Some predict a display of electrical phenomena, tremendous, but harmless as the aurora borealis. Deslandres, a Frenchman, says the tail is made up of cathode rays, which, touching our atmosphere, would become X-rays of great intensity.

There is a chance yet that we won't touch the tail at all. The full observations have not yet been taken. The final calculations may show that the tail will miss the earth by a few thousand miles—a microscopical distance in space—but still enough so that we would pass the tail in blissful ignorance of its nearness.

At any rate there seems little danger of any harm to come to us of the earth. The thing to do is to hold tight, don't lose courage, and keep your eyes open. For you're likely to see things you can tell about to your grandchildren.

GUMPTION ON THE FARM.

Trade one of the pups for a pig. Roll the meadows and green fields. Beware of planting sprouted potato seed.

It is scabby business to plant scabby potatoes. Few farmers harrow quite enough. Harrow, harrow, harrow.

Dogs can thrive on bones better than a woman can on unkind words. Keep manure near the surface; plow it deep and you lose some of it.

Seek only that which is honorable that thou in thy poverty shouldst die rich. Don't forget to make two sowings of clover, and be sure to use one-half alsike.

Those who charge farmers with the responsibility for the high cost of living tell a fib. Do not rush the teams too hard; let them have a time to get their shoulders hardened to the work.

The farmer who allowed his implements to be sheltered by the sky during the winter will now find himself out. When a man insists upon giving you advice, you can readily get rid of him by offering him a little in return.

If there is no place in the shed for the grindstone, get a box at the store that will fit over it, thus keeping it covered from the weather. Do you remember, when you were young, how it encouraged and cheered you to be consulted by your elders?

Everybody is impatient to begin the spring work, but it is wise to temper impatience with good judgment and to wait until all the conditions are right.

When you get the annual spring-cleaning fever, don't cut down or dig up all the nice little trees. Let every one stand that isn't in the way. The trees will come handy twenty years hence.

When you want to do a good job of hoeing or weed cutting this spring, put an edge upon the hoe. How much better the tool will work, and the operator as well! We despise a dull hoe, and do not own one.

Just as nearly as you can, grow all the stuff you will need for your family and your stock right at home this year. One thing that keeps a good many men poor is buying what they ought to raise themselves.

The Philadelphia Congressman who was charged fifty cents for two boiled eggs in a Washington hotel recently, has no cause to shake his fist at the farmer. That modest individual got only eight cents for those two eggs.

Seeding oats and peas: As a sowing crop for stock, use one and one-half bushels of each per acre. The peas need to be covered much deeper than the oats, hence it is necessary to seed them separately.

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SALEM'S MEN AT FAULT.

Rear Admiral Dillingham Returns From Trip of Investigation.

Washington, March 29.—Rear Admiral Albert C. Dillingham, who was sent to Hampton Roads to investigate conditions on board the cruiser Salem, returned to Washington and had a conference with Acting Secretary of the Navy Winthrop.

As several of the offenders were warrant officers who had been in the navy for many years and who previously bore good records, the department decided to make an investigation of the internal conditions of the Salem.

Nominated by the President. Washington, March 31.—President Taft sent to the senate the nominations of the following postmasters:

Pennsylvania—Charles S. Martin, Allentown; William E. Housel, Lewisburg; W. A. Brown, Wampum; I. Warner Arthur, Bryn Mawr; Huston S. Williams, Fairchance; John P. S. Fernstermacher, Kutztown; Allen P. Dickster, Waynesburg.

RUBBER FINGERS.

They're Common Enough Now, But Many Still Cut off a Glove Finger.

When you cut your finger nowadays and wrap it up in gauze, you don't have to hunt for an old pair of gloves and lop off a finger to form the outer bandage of your wounded member.

Most of them don't know that you can get rubber fingers of all sizes. They are made to fit the baby who in his first adventures is pretty sure to find a knife somewhere and to acquire the knowledge that it cuts, and grownups, too, no matter how convenient, for you put one on and it stays on, whereas you know a glove finger has to be tied on by strings passing over the hand and around the wrist.

New devices to save time and both are put on the market daily, but it takes some folks a long time to find out about them.—New York Sun.

Golden Weddings.

Married couples look eagerly forward to their golden wedding anniversary, and immediately after its celebration one or the other as a rule, dies. This is due to superstition. If the golden wedding were celebrated at sixty-five years of married life people would live fifteen years longer than they do, ever looking forward in happy anticipation of its approach.

About the Potato. The history of this vegetable affords a striking illustration of the influence of authority. For more than two centuries its use as a food was vehemently opposed.

House Refuse in Germany. In certain towns in Germany householders are compelled by law to sort out their house dust. They have to provide three receptacles—one for ashes and sweepings, one for cooking refuse, and one for rags and paper.

Electric Meat Saw. The up-to-date butcher shop is now provided with an electric meat saw, and the old hand saw is relegated to the junk pile.

Whales and Dolphins. About 40 different kinds of whales and dolphins are known, and although they live in the open sea and look like fish they are not fish at all, but are true mammals.

Tobacco Smoke. The smoke from the bowl of one's pipe is blue because coming direct from the red hot tobacco, it is very highly oxidized.

Costly Attempts. It has become known that the three attempts made by Sir Thomas Lipton to capture the America's cup, the intrinsic value of which is about \$250,000, have cost him \$500,000 for yachts alone.

Effect of Color on Dew. The deposit of dew is greatly influenced by color. It will be found thickest on a board painted yellow, but not at all on red and black.

Float the Wearer. A suit of clothes which will float the wearer in case of accident at sea, has been patented by a Norwegian inventor.

Mail Orders in the East. Mail orders for merchandise are practically unknown in China and the east in general.

An intoxicated person is, as a rule, no more fit to be at large than a lunatic. No one may say what he will do next.

The Bank of England employs about 1,000 people.

England has about 13,000 square miles of coal fields.

Ninety-six per cent of the coal is produced north of the equator.

In many parts of Africa, gir is the only currency.

The average life of a ship is twenty-six years.

Blond people are rarely afflicted with cancer.

HE DEFENDS TIPPING.

Man Who Was Once a Waiter Considers Other's Standpoint.

"Somehow I don't approve these wholesale kicks on the tipping system," said a business man who is fairly prosperous. "I was a waiter myself once and know how it seems from the other side."

"Oh, no, I wasn't a regular professional, merely one of the college brand. Many college men, of course, help themselves through college by working as waiters and bellboys and boatmen and other things at summer resorts, and if they are squeamish about taking tips, why, it isn't worth while taking such jobs."

"It came hard at first to take tips; gave me a sort of a feeling that I was unclassing myself. But it wore off. In fact there was a certain amount of satisfaction, after a while, in getting a tip that had been earned by giving more careful service than the job really demanded."

"So now when life lies in less arduous places I find pleasure in giving a tip. I do not regard it as an overcharge or an extortion, merely a little reward that I can well afford to give to one who will appreciate it."

Poor Material For British Army. If there be any doubt that physical deterioration in the submerged classes is more serious than it used to be the report of the Army Medical Department pins one down between that opinion and the conclusion that the army is recruited from a lower social stratum.

Number of Nails to a Horseshoe. Centuries ago there lived a farmer, Walter le Brun by name, whose dexterity at the anvil on the occasion of a great titling meeting on the banks of the Thames was noticed by the then reigning monarch, Edward III.

Had Expressed No Opinion. Here the judge took a hand in examining the ventruman. "You don't seem to understand the questions addressed to you by the attorneys," he said.

Short Wills. Apropos of Mr. Harriman's short simple will, it is of interest to note that Lord Mansfield found half a sheet of note paper ample for the disposal of his worldly possessions.

Coquetry of Golf. Golf is the coquette of games. It always lures you on and always evades you. Ten years ago I thought I had nearly got it.

Gave Providence an Evening Off. Bishop Potter was to preach at a certain parish in the West in the evening, and the congregation was not a little amused at the somewhat ambiguous announcement of their worthy pastor, who said:

Some People. Some people hunt for work in about the same way that an optimist hunts for trouble.

Too Bad. Post—Whatever does this mean? My publisher sends me a bill for a new waste-basket.

SELECTIONS.

FORCE OF HABIT.

How the Bluejackets on Shore and in Shelter Hold Their Pipes.

In a barroom where many of the bluejackets with the American fleet took their nightcaps before returning to their ships a petty officer said to a landlubber acquaintance:

"See how the boys hold their pipes!" Almost every one of them had the bowl of his pipe covered by the arched fingers of his hand.

"See?" said the petty officer. "Now wait till one of these lights his pipe." In a little while a sailor filled his pipe, got out his match and faced the open door of the barroom.

"Force of habit," said the petty officer. "He doesn't intend that the piping breeze shall blow the lighted tobacco out of his pipe."

Superstitious Remedies.

For whooping cough a cooked dormouse is good. In the eighteenth century this remedy was employed in Scotland. Here is another medicine for the same complaint: "Watercress is a very good thing, sir, with a little bit of that brown sugar what you uses to put onto bacon, and some honey mixed with it."

Number of Nails to a Horseshoe. Centuries ago there lived a farmer, Walter le Brun by name, whose dexterity at the anvil on the occasion of a great titling meeting on the banks of the Thames was noticed by the then reigning monarch, Edward III, who rewarded the blacksmith by granting him sufficient land adjoining the titling green for the erection thereof of a force.

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PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

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D. R. E. T. BROWN, DENTIST, Office—First floor, old Savings Bank building, Honesdale, Pa.

D. C. H. BRADY, DENTIST, HONESDALE, Pa. Office Hours—8 a. m. to 5 p. m. Any evening by appointment. Citizens' phone, 33. Residence, No. 86-X.

DR. H. B. SEARLES, DENTIST, Office and residence 107½ Court Street telephones. Office Hours—2:30 to 4:30 p. m. 6:00 to 8:30 p. m.

LIVERY.—Fred. G. Rickard has removed his livery establishment from corner Church street to Whitney's Stone Barn.

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