

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER, Devoted to the Interests of the People of Elk Co. PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY, BY JOHN F. MOORE. Office in the Court House. Terms—One Dollar and Fifty Cents per annum, invariably in advance. No deviation from these terms. JOHN G. HALL, Proprietor.

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Table with 2 columns: Advertisement type and Rate. Includes Advertisements and Executive Notices, Auditors' Notices, Transient Advertising, Professional cards, Special notices, and various advertising rates per line or square.

JOBING DEPARTMENT.

Having lately added materially to our stock of Job Type, we are prepared to do all kinds of work in a manner which can not be excelled by any establishment between Williamsport and Erie.

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Elk County Directory.

COUNTY OFFICERS. President Judge—R. G. White. Additional Law Judge—Henry W. Williams. Associate Judges—E. C. Schultz, Jesse Klyer. District Attorney—L. J. Blakely. Sheriff—James A. Malone. Prothonotary, Sec.—G. A. Rathbun. Treasurer—James Coyne. Co. Superintendent—James Blakely. Commissioners—William A. Bly, J. W. Taylor, Louis Vollmer. Auditors—Clark Wilcox, Byron J. Jones, Jacob McCutley. County Surveyor—Geo. Walmsley.

TIME OF HOLDING COURT. Second Monday in January. Last Monday in April. First Monday in August. First Monday in November.

BEALE'S

EMBRICATION!

FOR ALL DISEASES INCIDENT TO HORSES, CATTLE AND THE HUMAN FLESH, requiring the use of an external application. This new Compound, prepared by a practical Chemist having a full knowledge of all the medicinal virtues of each ingredient that enters into its composition, is warranted to exceed anything of the kind ever offered to the public as an external application for the diseases for which it is recommended. We are satisfied that it will work its own road into the confidence of all who use it, and those who try it once will never be without it, and therefore we rely on experience as the best test of its usefulness. It is pronounced by Farriers, and all who have tried it to be the best application ever used. This Embrocation has been put up for over eight years, and it is only through the increasing demand and urgent request of my friends and the Public that I send it forth as the grand remedial agent for the various diseases to which that noble and useful animal, the HORSE, is subject. Many remedies have been offered to the Public under different forms, some of these are injurious, others at best of little use, and many wholly improper to answer the purposes for which they are recommended. A judicious and really useful composition free from those objections, has therefore long been desired by many gentlemen who have valuable horses, and are unwilling to trust them in the care of designing and pretending Farriers. Their wishes are at length fully gratified, by Dr. Beale being prevailed upon to allow this valuable Embrocation (which has proved so efficacious to the various diseases) to be prepared and brought out to the public. This embrocation was extensively used by the Government during the war. Address all orders to DR. EDMOND BEALE, 602, South Second St., Phila. For Sale by Bestwell & Messenger, Ridgway, Pa. ap00ly

THE MOST RELIABLE CUSHION used on Billiard Tables is the CAT-GUT CUSHION.

Manufactured by Kavanagh & Decker, and patented Dec. 18, 1864. (See Scientific American, volume 10, number 11.) It is the ONLY Cushion that possesses all the qualities essential to a perfect Cushion. It is the most elastic and most durable Cushion ever offered to the billiard-playing public, as is abundantly proven by the great demand for it since its introduction. The peculiarity which distinguishes the CAT-GUT Cushion and renders it superior to all others, is the tightened cord of cat-gut which overlies the face and edge of the rubber, and running the full length of the cushion, which prevents the ball from being driven into the rubber and jumping from the table. The addition of the cat-gut cord also adds much to the elasticity of the Cushion. The CAT-GUT Cushion has already been applied to over 1000 tables which are in constant use. It can be applied to tables of any make, for \$75 per set. KAVANAGH & DECKER'S Factory, at the corner of Centre and Canal Streets, N. Y., is the most complete of its kind in the world. The machinery is of the most improved character, the lumber drying room the largest in the United States; the material used the best that can be purchased, and the workmen thoroughly skilled. Billiard Cloth, Balls, Cues and Trimmings, all of the best make, constantly on hand. Kavanagh & Decker are the only agents in this country for KAY'S CEMENT, adjudged by competent authorities to be the best cement ever used. Full Size Tables cut down for \$100. Sent for Illustrated Price List. KAVANAGH & DECKER, Cor. of Centre and Canal Sts., New York City. ap30ly

The Elk Advocate.

JOHN G. HALL, Proprietor.

JOHN F. MOORE, Publisher.

RIDGWAY, PENNA., MAY 30th, 1867.

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Selected Poetry.

THE SONG OF THE CROCUS.

What care I for the snow? What care I for the frost? I quietly wait till they go, Then make up for what I have lost. I put on my purple cloak, Or my golden mantle gay, And, while scarce a flower has awoke, Come out on the first fine day.

Anconite's sickly hue, Hepatica's leadless bloom, These come creeping, too, Out of their wintry tomb; Snowdrop, her pretty head Hangs with a timid grace, As if she came forth in dread Of getting a frost bitten face.

They may shiver and fear! They may look pale and wan! I say to myself, "I'm here, And winter for me has gone; I'd blossom as long as I may, And shine like gold in the light That kindly comes in my day, Nor trouble my head about night.

"Ha, ha," I say to the sun, Staring him full in the face, "Isn't it capital fun That I've come back to my place? Shine on and keep me gay! And while I may I'll bring My mantle of gold so gay, Then put it away till next spring."

Selected Miscellany.

AFRICAN CANNIBALS.

Mr. Charles Livingstone, Her Majesty's Consul in the Bight of Biafra, sends to the Foreign Office the following narrative of his interview with the King of the Okrika country, in July, with a view to terminate war between that country and New Calabar; the Consul was accompanied by three chiefs of Bonny. "Op Okrika, the chief town, is built on a dry ridge, part of which is adorned with magnificent trees. A stockade, through which pass some guns, defends the water front of the town, which seemed longer than Grand Bonny—Dense masses of people crowded the beach at the public landing-place. The Bonny chiefs, Prince George, Banigo, Calendusi, landed, but we remained in the boats until they had seen the King. In 15 minutes they returned and beckoned us to land. The stench was terrible; all the stinks at the outskirts of all the African villages I ever entered, though mixed and shaken together, would be weak compared to this. After passing through the crowd, we met some fellows who tried to stop us. "It was contrary to juju for white men to enter the town." The bonny chiefs scolded, and we pushed on, but soon met a mob of hundreds, and further progress was impossible. In vain did Banigo and Calendusi scold and push, and even knock some down; the others pressed closer together, shouting, barking, and gesticulating frantically. After looking at the performance until we got tired of it, we returned to the boats. A canoe came off with two messengers from the King inviting us to come ashore. Guards armed with long spears at the corners of the streets, and the town was quiet. We were conducted to the King's audience chamber, which had no light except what came in by the door. Chairs were brought, and the chiefs and others crowded in. A beating of drums announcing that the King had gone to the juju house to consult the spirits before proceeding to business. In half an hour King Fibia appeared, a strongly built man of 45, with a round good-natured looking face. He shook hands and sat down on a low stool in a corner. Apologizing for the rude reception his people had given us, he asked us to remain till the following day, as some of his chiefs had not yet arrived from their villages. A table of home manufacture was brought in, the Queen spread a tablecloth over it, and 'tombo' (unintoxicating wine) was presented. Permission to see the town was given, and we paid a visit to the juju house; a noisy crowd attempted to rush in after us, but a vigorous application of the long spears of the guards drove them back. Masses of human skulls hang from the walls, and numerous rows of skulls cover the roof of a sort of altar. In front of this altar sat the jujuman, having a footstool of human skulls. The Okrika had eaten the victims whose skulls decorate the juju-house. An old man who accompanied us spoke with evident gusto of the different cannibal feasts he had partaken of, mentioning the part of the human body which he considered the sweetest. It is the first time I have seen cannibals in Africa. We saw men at work tarring ropes; others retailed gin in the streets by the wineglass. We had a glimpse of the Okrika funeral ceremony. Three young men, facing the same way, had the corpse of a boy done up in matting on their shoulders. They twisted and tagged, and appeared as if struggling with some unseen spirits who wished to drag the body to a shallow open grave by the side of a house. At times the

young men had the advantage, and brought the body back from the grave; then the spirits prevailed, and dragged them forward. A man kept beating a drum. The Okrika are well clothed, most of the cloth being made of the palm leaf. They are acquainted with several vegetable dyes; two—a yellow and blue are used to paint their persons. We slept in Ozobome, a large village which has an oil market, and about two miles from the capital. A good dinner was provided and we were offered a choice of sleeping apartments, close inner rooms; or the open verandah; my companions preferred the latter. I was conducted to a neighboring house and found the people very kind. My bed, small boxes, of unequal height unluckily, was in the best room, in which I found a good fire, 30 kegs of powder, and a considerable quantity of cloth and gin. I managed to sleep tolerably well, but my companions were badly bitten by the sand-flies. A King's messenger came for us at sunrise, and shortly after 7 we were seated with the King and his chiefs. King Fibia remarked that in Bonny the King and chiefs could settle public affairs, but in Okrika the people always wanted to be present. He thought it would be better to have an interview in a public place, so that his people could hear all that was said, and not have to pester him with questions after we were gone. We accordingly adjourned to the street. There was some disturbance at first, but nothing like that of an excited political gathering in a civilized country. King Fibia requested them to be silent, and listen to what was said. His Prime Minister and orator, having before him specimens of two kinds of dried fish a fish trap, and piece of net, commenced by remarking that they were glad to see me. They did not understand the customs of the white men; no white man had ever been in their town before, and they hoped I would excuse them if they proceeded in their own way. He then picked up the dried fish, the trap and net, and handed them to me, saying "Bonny and Calabar have ships to trade with, Okrika has nothing but fish. It is on fish we live, it is with fish we buy the oil we have to sell, and this has been so every since Okrika became a country. It was in the creeks I saw in coming that they caught their fish, and Calabar men came into these creeks and stole their fish out of the nets, and also their canoes." Mr. Livingstone disensed with them terms of peace, and it was finally arranged that Fibia should send down two of his chiefs to meet the chiefs of Bonny and Calabar and settle differences. The Consul adds: "The session lasted four hours and a half. Never before in Africa have I seen such powerful looking men as the Okrika. I could not but admire their physical strength. As they sat before me chewing bits of chopstick to clean their teeth, and gazing earnestly at me, the thought occasionally flashed across my mind: 'Are these cannibals wondering how a piece of roast Consul would taste, and which would be most savory, cold Consul or hot?' On parting, Fibia made me a present of about a cart load of gigantic yams, two goats, and a fowl!"

when sweeping around the curve, my eye following the track, not over two hundred feet ahead at the little fellow playing with a kitten, which he held in his lap. At the sound of our approach he looked up and laughed, clapping his little hands in high glee at the affrighted kitten as it ran from the track—Quicker than lightning that blasts the tall pine upon the mountain top, I whistled "down brakes," and reversed my engine, but I knew it was impossible to stop. Nobly did that old engine try to save him. The awful straining and wrenching of its iron drivers told but too plainly of the terrific velocity we had attained. I was out of the cabin window and down on the cow-catcher in a flash. The little fellow stood still. I motioned him off and shouted, his little blue eyes opened wide with astonishment, and a merry laugh was upon his lips. I held my breath as we rushed upon him, made a desperate attempt to save him, but missed, and as his little body basped I heard the cry of "Mother!" and the forward truck crushed his body to atoms.

Oh, God? that moment! I may live, sir, to be an old man, but the agony of that moment can never be erased from my memory. The cars stopped some rods from the spot, and I ran back as soon as possible. His mother saw the train stop and a fearful forboding flashed upon her at once. She came rushing frantically to the spot where we stood. Never shall I forget the look she gave me as she beheld her first-born a shapeless mass. I would have given my whole existence to have avoided that moment! I have seen death in all its forms upon railroads. I have seen men, woman and children mangled and killed—I have seen all this, but that little innocent boy as he looked up in my face, and was killed almost in my arms—! it unnerved me, and from that day I made a solemn vow never to run a locomotive any more.

Incident in the Life of a Locomotive Engineer.

Probably the best description to be found of the vast territory recently purchased by our Government is given in a pamphlet published in 1855, by Mr. A. R. Roche, of Quebec. This pamphlet [Russian America and the Present War] was written with a view of urging the British Government to aid in fitting out an expedition for the conquest of Russian America, and its annexation to the British possessions, but the war with Russia came to a close in the following year, and the project, if ever seriously entertained in England, was of course no longer thought of. We quote from the pamphlet a description of some features of the territory just ceded to the United States: "With a coast upon the Pacific of some fifteen hundred miles in length, indented by numerous sounds and capacious harbors, and studded with many large islands of considerable resources, it extends back, for about one thousand miles of that coast to a distance of nine hundred miles, and for the remaining five hundred miles of the coast, to thirty miles, the latter being the portion in front of our possessions which it cuts off from the Pacific; while the Peninsula of Alaska, about fifty miles in breadth, stretches out in the Pacific for upwards of three hundred miles, the whole territory comprising a surface of nine hundred thousand square miles. It is thus about sixteen times the size of England. It contains many mountain ranges of great height, and fine valleys, magnificently watered and fertilized by large lakes and rivers; the mountain ranges in the upper and broader portions of the territory, having a transverse direction, and therefore sheltering the valleys from northerly winds, which in that quarter are cold winds in summer, while, extraordinary as it may appear to

many, in winter they invariably cause a rise in the thermometer. At both these seasons southerly winds produce effects directly opposite to the former, being warm winds in summer and cold winds in winter. A great portion of this vast region (in some places to within a short distance of the Arctic Circle), is covered with forests of the largest and most valuable trees. Even upon some of the islands of Prince William's Sound, in 61 degrees north latitude, where it might be expected that the influence of the wind and sea would prevent or retard the growth of trees, Cook found the Canadian and spruce pine of large size; and of the country adjacent to Norton Sound, lying in 64 degrees and 55 minutes north latitude he says: 'From the elevated spot on which Mr. King surveyed the sound, he could distinguish many extensive valleys with rivers running through them, well wooded and bounded by hills of a gentle ascent, and moderate height. One of these rivers appeared to be of considerable size—Some of the people, who penetrated beyond this into the country, found the trees larger the farther they advanced.'

In speaking of the resources of Russian America, Sir John Richardson, in his work upon the 'Arctic Searching Expedition,' quotes Bongard with reference to one portion of it, who says that the 'Hill of Westevoi,' near Norfolk Sound, in north latitude fifty-eight degrees, which is three thousand feet, French measure, in height, is clothed to its summit by a dense forest of pines and spruces, some of which acquire a circumference of twenty-one feet, and the prodigious length of one hundred and sixty feet; and that the hollow trunk of one of these trees, made into a canoe is able to contain thirty men with all their household effects. Sir John adds: 'The climate of Sitka,' (the name of the bay as well as the island upon which is situated New Archangel, the chief port of the Russian company, lying in fifty-seven degrees north latitude,) 'is very much milder than that of Europe on the same parallel, the cold of winter being neither severe nor of long continuance. The humidity of the atmosphere gives astonishing vigor to the vegetation, but although the forest, nourished by a very moist atmosphere and comparatively high mean temperature, is equal to that of the richest woodlands of the Northern United States, yet corn does not ripen there. This humidity of the atmosphere, which is occasioned by the surrounding sea, is doubtless the cause of corn not coming to perfection at Sitka; for some distance in the interior of the continent, as far east as the Mackenzie, in the territory occupied by the Hudson Bay company, the cereals are successfully cultivated up to 60 degrees north latitude, and occasionally in some spots situated five degrees further.' In the neighborhood of the Mackenzie, Sir John Richardson says that 'Fort Laird, of the sixtieth parallel, may be considered as the northern limit of the economical of wheat,' as in the interior of Russian America the climate must be of a drier nature than upon the seaboard, and probably more in the extreme, that is colder in winter and warmer in summer, much of the interior may be well adapted for growth of the cereals, although they cannot be successfully cultivated at the Russian establishments upon the coast. The harbor of Sitka, and several other fine harbors are open during the whole winter; thus showing an extraordinary contrast to the opposite coasts of Asia, which are icebound for three parts of the year. Even as high up as Behring's Straits great difference of climate exists between the coasts of the Asiatic and American continents.—In his 'Travels Round the World,' Sir George Simpson remarks that, although at some points Behring's Straits are only forty five miles wide, in the general appearance of the two coasts there is a marked difference, the western side being low, flat and sterile, while the eastern is well wooded, and in every respect better adapted than the other for the sustenance of both man and beast.—Moreover, the soil and climate improve rapidly on the American shore as one descends, and at Cook's inlet, (in sixty degrees north latitude,) potatoes may be raised with ease, although they hardly ripen in any part of Kamatchka, which extends nearly ten degrees south. Thus both in soil and climate, the great portion of Russian America, bordering upon the sea, is not inferior to the eastern coasts of America and Asia, whether lying in the same or a much lower parallel. Sitka, for instance, which is 58 degrees north latitude, has a climate almost as temperate as that of London, in 51 degrees north latitude, [the mean annual temperature of the former being 45 degrees 44 minutes, and that of the latter 49 degrees 70 minutes,] and it has also about as mild a winter as the southern portion of Japan, situated in a lower latitude. The superiority, however, of the climate and soil of Russian America, over the soil and climate of the opposite coasts of Asia, has been observed from the time of Kotzebue up to the present moment.

RUSSIAN AMERICA.

"But we have still more recent evidence of the comparative mildness of the climate upon the American side, even in a higher latitude. At Point Barrow in 71 degrees north, where there is a large Esquimaux village, and where Her Majesty's ship Flaver wintered in 1852-3, her commander, Lieutenant Paine, reported that during the entire winter the fall of snow did not exceed one foot in depth, and that on the coldest day the thermometer only marked forty-three degrees below zero; a degree of cold not much greater than that which was experienced at Quebec last winter, where, also the entire quantity of snow which fell during that period was about fifteen times greater than that reported to have fallen during the winter of 1852-3 at Point Barrow, situated twenty degrees further north.

"Of the many large rivers which flow through Russian America, none of them have been explored to their sources; but several of them, such as the Colville, the Stikine, the Yukon or Kwichpack, and the Kulkowin, are supposed to run a course of upwards of one thousand miles, and to be navigable for a considerable distance. From their breadth as well as their length, and the volume of water which they discharge into the sea, they may certainly be included in rivers of the first class. The Colville, which was discovered by Simpson and Dease since the convention of 1826, is two miles wide at its mouth in the Arctic Sea where Capt. McClure observed its influence twelve or fourteen miles out at sea, the water at the distance being of a dirty mud color and soverely salt. The Stikine enters the Pacific at 59 degrees 50 minutes north latitude, where it is three miles wide and at a distance of thirty miles from the sea has a width of one mile; but its source is in British territory. Of the Yukon or Kwichpack, Sir John Richardson says: 'It rises to the west of the Rocky Mountains, not far from the union of the Francis and Lewis which form the Pelly, flows first to the north, and after receiving a large tributary named Porcupine, to the westward, falls into Behring's Sea,' and that 'in 60 degrees north latitude, and 147 degrees west longitude,' which is about one thousand miles from its mouth, 'it is one mile and a quarter wide. These three magnificent rivers, falling into different seas, probably represent three distinct river systems of the northwest corner of this continent, each being fed by numerous smaller, yet considerable streams, and the three together draining an extent of country much larger than the whole of Canada. The Rat River, mentioned by Mr. Biber, of the Hudson Bay Company's service, in a communication to the Royal Geographical Society, flows from Russian America thro' the Rocky Mountains at the first complete break in the chain in 67 degrees north latitude into the Mackenzie of the British territory, the latter having according to Sir John Richardson, a course of 2,800 miles (800 miles longer than the St. Lawrence); and an unbroken navigation, fit for steamboats, from its entrance in the Arctic Sea to the Portage of the Drowned, a distance of from twelve to thirteen hundred miles. In addition to the Russian territory being everywhere drained by the finest rivers, it contains many large lakes communicating with the former, and is indented with numerous deep and spacious harbors, and also by several extensive arms of the sea. Of the latter, Cook's inlet runs upwards of two hundred miles into the land. These lakes and rivers, and these inlets and harbors, may be viewed as very important features of the country. They not only assist to temper the climate (the former by draining the land) which generally shapes towards the sea and towards the Mackenzie, and the latter by the salt atmosphere, which their waters diffuse through the interior, but they tend to enrich the soil upon their banks, by a short period of overflow in the spring, and may be made to afford facilities for inter-communication, rendering accessible the most retired and most sheltered valleys, and for the establishment and active prosecution of an outward commerce."

The Cleveland Plaindealer tells this horrible story: "We once knew a man to struggle for years to color a particular obstinate meerschaum pipe. He smoked incessantly: He tried all the different kinds of tobacco, put a bottom in it, boiled it in tobacco juice, but all to no avail. It wouldn't color. He grew morose and sour, shut himself up by himself and smoked, and smoked, uttering savagely between his clenched teeth—'Color, I say—D—n ye, I'll e-o-l-o-r ye!' He gave up all business and devoted himself wholly to smoking, determined as he said, to color that pipe or die in the attempt. One day he failed to make his appearance at breakfast. His room was opened and there he sat in his chair dead, the fatal meerschaum clutched tightly between his teeth. The meerschaum was as white as when it emerged, Venus like, from the room of the sea, but the man was turned a rich, dark brown. The meerschaum had colored him."

Black River, Wisconsin, is completely jammed with logs for fifteen miles. It is estimated that there were not less than 225,000,000 feet in the river at the opening of spring, of which 120,000,000 have already gone down.

The Danish Government, it is said, has informed foreign Powers that the Prussian Government continues to disregard the obligations of the treaty of 1865 in regard to Schleswig.

Mind your own Business. That of others will take care of itself.

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