A REAL BLIZZARD.

Was the Worst Snowstorm New England Ever Experienced.

In February, 1717, occurred what is considered to have been the greatest snowstorm that ever visited this country—or perhaps any other. So deep was the fall that practically all through the New England states people were barricaded in their homes, and it was a considerable time before that section was opened up for traffic.

Accompanying this snow there were a terrific tempest and a very low temperature. It was not only in sections, but all over the north, and at many places it drifted to the extent that it may be said that "whole villages were snowed under."

The blizzard caused a very heavy damage to property and especially to live stock. Thousands of cattle perished throughout the country because their owners were unable to go to their assistance, and many remarkable instances were related of rescues. On one New England sheep farm it is said that 1,100 sheep, the property of one man, were found dead, and one flock of a hundred on Fisher's Island were found buried sixteen feet in the snow. Two of them only were alive, they having subsisted on the wool of their companions for twenty eight days after the storm.—Philadelphia Press.

TREES AS BAROMETERS.

Why It Is a Sign of Rain When the Leaves Show Their Backs.

Persons who are close observers have frequently seen the trees when the foliage presents a much different appearance from that ordinarily seen. This is more noticeable in poplar and silver leaf trees.

The odd appearance is due to the fact that the backs of the leaves are turned up, showing the under sides, which are, as a rule, a lighter color than the upper side. Some of the leaves are such a light green as to appear almost white when the backs show in the sunshine.

This behavior of the leaves is due to an unusually low barometric condition of the atmosphere, which causes the leaves to curl a little and flip up in the breeze to such an extent as to show the [illegible].

The low barometric condition produces local showers, and it is always safe to predict rain when the leaves are seen to have their backs up. Long before the white man came to America Indians knew of this sign and placed great reliance on it. Science also finds knowledge of it among savage tribes of Asia, Africa and the Pacific islands. —New York American.

Lo's Business System.

Old settlers will tell you that the Indians broke the first ground for wheat growing purposes in the spring of 1881. The Indians got their first ideas of settling on land and establishing permanent homes from association with the cowboys. Members of the tribe, including Deerfoot, [illegible], China Eye and Big [illegible] Pete, broke some ground and seeded a few acres of wheat.

When the wheat was harvested and thrashed in primitive Indian fashion the growers [illegible] sacked the grain. The native wheat was sold delivered wheat to American Falls or elsewhere in the vicinity for [illegible] cents a bushel. If the customer went after the grain the price was [illegible] a bushel. When questioned as to the meaning of their singular business methods the Indians would invariably reply: "You come to my wickiup, you heap want 'um. Me come to your wickiup, maybe you don't want 'um at all." Farming Business.

England's Oldest Borough.

As Salisbury is well known as Sarum, so is England's oldest borough, Barnstaple, [illegible] which may have been the Roman name of the town. According to old memorials, the old name of the town was Abertawe because it stood toward the mouth of Taw river. The Saxons changed it to Berendenstaple. Barnstaple appears to have been represented in the Witenagemot or Anglo-Saxon parliament. Thus it is one of the oldest boroughs if not absolutely the oldest in the kingdom. Its broad [illegible] manufactures [illegible] important [illegible] but [illegible] manufacturers of [illegible] and gloves, large [illegible] works, tanneries [illegible] London [illegible].

Study of Synonyms.

Little Dub [illegible] asked by her teacher to define the word "whimsical." "It means odd," [illegible] "And now," the teacher went on, "please write a sentence containing the word properly used."

Hesitatingly the little ten-year-old took up a pen and after a moment's thought wrote, "There are two kinds of numbers—whimsical and even."

Dog Carts In Holland.

Residents of Bunschoten, Holland, make use of the little carts drawn by dogs, which are to be seen in very many parts of the Netherlands, and have a fine breed of tall, yellow, smooth haired dogs, which they sometimes harness three abreast.

Venice of Brazil.

Pernambuco is called the Venice of Brazil on account of its numerous lakes, rivers, waterways and an immense coral reef, with which nature has completely encircled the city and inside of which all but the very largest ocean vessels anchor.

When the fight begins within himself a man's worth something.—Browning.

What Is a Weed?

The simplest definition of a weed is "a plant out of place," and the unlearned scientist may be satisfied with that disposition of the lovely mountain laurel or the aristocratic rhododendron when great specimens of either stand in the way of a road or a building. I think I may construct my own definition of a weed as, in the first place, a plant of persistent and spreading growth that is not sufficiently beautiful in foliage or flower to commend it for its own sake or as a plant attractive in itself that tends to possess the land to the exclusion of all else. Thus the ox eyed daisy is a weed, even though it is beautiful, because it spreads persistently, so that whole fields on the careless farm wave with its flowers, justifying the gibe of Dr. Bailey of Cornell, who said, when passing such a display, "That man is not a farmer, he's a florist." This same Dr. Bailey's definition of a weed as "a plant not wanted" is simple and true.—Horace McFarland in Countryside Magazine.

The Eclipse Monster.

The Mohammedans of Macedonia look upon an eclipse of the moon as full of [illegible] and [illegible] It is [illegible] with reports of firearms, and from the minarets the muezzins call the faithful to pull [illegible] prayers in the mosques. This is a striking [illegible] for the [illegible] of many [illegible] barbarous nations. The great nations of Asia, such as the Hindus and the Chinese, [illegible] belief in the [illegible] monster [illegible] with [illegible] But even in civilized Europe, both ancient and modern, one finds numerous proofs of this superstition. The Romans came to the succor of the afflicted moon by flinging firebrands into the air, by the blare of trumpets and the clang of brazen pots. The superstition survived through the middle ages into a very late period. France, Wales and Ireland offer many instances as late as the seventeenth century.

Japanese Fear Foxes.

The Japanese have many curious superstitions about animals, the chief among which is their belief in the supernatural power of foxes [illegible] numberless shrines [illegible] by the superstitious [illegible] is believed to [illegible] people and to be [illegible] priest at will.

The crying of weasels [illegible] of dogs are considered [illegible] such insignificant [illegible] shudder over the [illegible].

In Japan a light [illegible] the house is a sign of [illegible] a spider falls from the [illegible] morning it [illegible] night it is thought to be [illegible] To see a centipede at [illegible] happiness in [illegible].

Washington as a Business Man.

Washington was [illegible] extraordinary activity. It was his custom to rise at 4 o'clock and he [illegible] that a great deal of his work was done while others slept. My [illegible] he wrote "is plain and I do not [illegible] to be put out by [illegible]"

It was said of him "At the time of his [illegible] metaphor to say that Washington had low his first [illegible] down since the days when he had pored over his school copybook." After the war and his first term as president Washington found his estates run down and unprofitable, yet he so redeemed his fortunes by his application to his affairs and by good business judgment that he died the second richest man in America at that time. Christian Herald.

Light as a Cure.

Professor E. C. Titus in an address states that light is a much better cure for disease than a hot water bag or poultice. He says that when rays of light fall on the skin some are arrested by one layer of skin and some by another, while some are not stopped until they have penetrated the subcutaneous tissues. When the light is thus arrested it produces radiant heat which has a higher penetrating power than [illegible] heat, such as generated by [illegible] Radiant heat [illegible] two inches or more [illegible] —Exchange.

Enlightening Jamie.

"Papa," said Jamie, "the reason there's so many laws is because there['s] so many lawyers in the legislature, isn't it?"

"Yes," said his father. "[illegible] for yours now."

"Just one more question, papa," said Jamie. "Why are there so many taxes when there aren't any taxidermists in the legislature?"—Judge.

The Sea Horse.

The hippocampus, or sea horse, is by no means an extinct creature, nor is it a creation of the old mythologies or fairy tales. Hippocampus, though very small, is a living reality and not a fiction, a distinct order of the class of fishes.

Her Title.

Mary Ann Simpkins has married a title."

"Go 'way! What is it?"

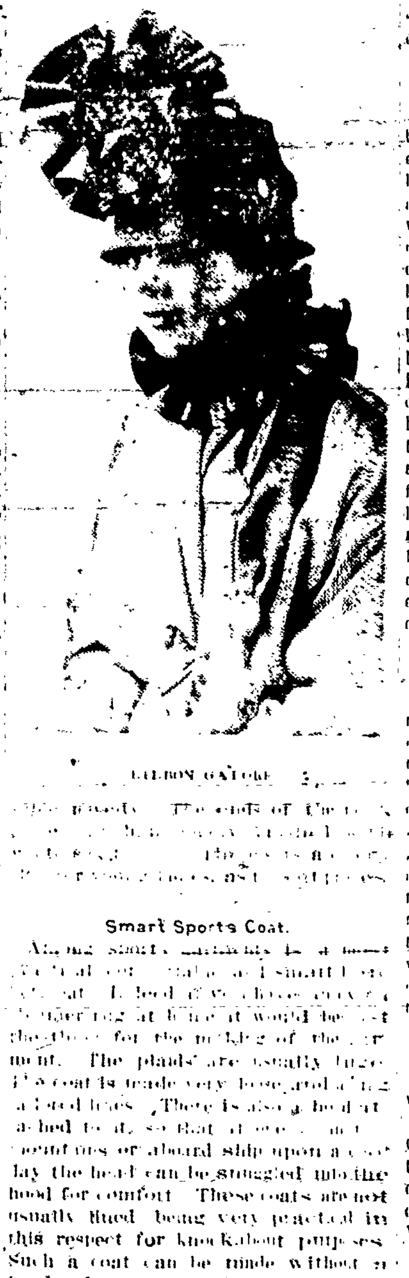
"Title to Ziar Hopper's 200 acre farm."—Browning's Magazine.

Naturally.

Boarding House Mistress—What part of the chicken do you wish?

Freshman—Some of the meat, please. Pennsylvania Punch Bowl.

Purposelessness is the fruitful mother of crime.—Parkhurst.



Here's to Your Spring Bonnet

While the average woman is yet well content in the appropriate season to wrap herself in furs and clothe her body in velvet or wool, she is not at all inclined to be consistent and cover her head in some suitable heavy material. No, a straw hat she hankers for, and a straw hat she wears. The incongruous combination of fur and straw is to be seen a great deal, for, though the thermometer persists winter weather in many places, the spring hat is here.

"Adorable" is the name best applied to some of the newest models. There is such a diversity of styles shown in the latest millinery models that almost every woman will find something to suit her particular style of beauty. The picture, the broad brim, the big [illegible] the flat hat of medium size [illegible] are but a few of the attractive styles from which to [illegible].

[illegible] satin straw [illegible] with [illegible] taffetas [illegible] and tulle. Tulle may be said to be the most popular material of the present season. Tulle hats and toques are now shown in all the best [illegible] shops.

The high crowned toque composed of brown tulle and [illegible] is a very popular model. This is an effective combination of materials, especially when a band of dark fur and a [illegible].

It [illegible] happens that some one model [illegible] favorite at the beginning of the spring and an [illegible] All sorts of hats and toques [illegible] the [illegible] in [illegible] the [illegible] favorite in the [illegible] [illegible] and straw [illegible].

Of course the [illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible] in taffeta and soft [illegible] broad [illegible] the [illegible] A full [illegible] of velvet, taffeta or tulle should be [illegible] with [illegible] covered with [illegible].

The [illegible] hats with straw [illegible] Parisian. And it is a [illegible] to [illegible] for [illegible].

Many [illegible] straws are [illegible] an invisible [illegible] to [illegible] the hat brim.

SO SPRINGY!

One of the Ribbon Effects So Popular This Season.

A tall hat is [illegible] by a huge rosette of blue and white polka dotted moire ribbon [illegible] a ruff of the [illegible] [illegible] The ends of the [illegible].

RIBBON TOQUE.

Smart Sports Coat.

Among smart [illegible] is a [illegible] [illegible] hood [illegible] for [illegible] it would be [illegible] the [illegible] for the making of the garment. The plaids are usually large. The coat is made very loose and [illegible] a hood [illegible]. There is also a hood attached to it, so that at [illegible] country or aboard ship upon a cool day the head can be snuggled into the hood for comfort. These coats are not usually lined, being very practical in this respect for knockabout purposes. Such a coat can be made without a hood, of course, or the hood can be made in detachable form, fastening to the neck and shoulders of the coat with buttons and buttonholes.

Crab Meat, Indienne.

Two tablespoonfuls of butter, a teaspoonful of finely chopped onion, three tablespoonfuls of flour, two-thirds tablespoonful of curry powder, a cupful of chicken stock, a cupful of crab meat, salt. Cook butter and onion three minutes, add flour mixed with curry powder and chicken stock. When boiling point is reached add crab meat and season with salt.

SELLING DEAD LETTERS.

One Postoffice Custom That Teaches a Moral Lesson.

Twice a year in Washington they hold a curious auction. It is called the dead letter sale, but in reality it is the sale of packages that have been sent to the dead letter office because of deficient postage or wrong directions.

After these packages have been held for a certain length of time, in order to give senders or owners an opportunity to claim them, they are sold at public auction.

It is often a strange and pathetic collection. Most of the articles are cheap enough, although valuable things are not lacking. But who can estimate the intrinsic value of some of those lost gifts, the time and sacrifice and love they represent? How many lives were robbed of a happiness that rightfully belonged to them because of the sender's carelessness or ignorance!

Is there not a parable lurking somewhere about this strange auction? How many lives are there today that hold the possibility of gifts for other lives, yet through carelessness or ignorance or indifference are robbing both themselves and others and are carelessly making "dead letters" of gifts for which eager eyes and hearts are longing?

There is no sale of these dead gifts. No one has any chance at them. They are doubly lost, lost to the one who should have used them and to the world that needs them. What a pitiful waste of power and joy!—Baltimore American.

AFRICAN COCOA PORTERS.

Head Loads and Barrel Rolling Feats of the Natives.

Unusual and arresting is the spectacle in the African Gold Coast country of the transport of cocoa, the bulk of the inland produce being carried by porters to the railroad. Sometimes the road was as far as the eye can see are one long line of cocoa bags on the heads of hundreds of carriers.

This carrying trade has produced an extraordinary flow of free labor into the whole hinterland of the Gold Coast. At Nsawam, a buying station nearly fifteen miles from the railhead, one firm alone [illegible] in the season 3,000 carriers, who cover the distance to the rail station at Pokro once and frequently twice a day with a 150 pound bag of cocoa.

Many of the native farmers within thirty miles of Accra prefer to sell their cocoa at a higher price at the port of embarkation and so have created the interesting system of "barrel rolling." In the cocoa season strongly bound and ponderous casks are filled with the beans and rolled to the seashore.

Traveling along the somewhat primitive roads one meets at frequent intervals perspiring natives struggling with the "barrel," which, filled with cocoa weighs considerably over a quarter of a ton. As a rule, three men roll two casks, one relieving the other. Occasionally the loss due to accidents is considerable.—Argonaut.

Henley's Sufferings.

In fifty four years of his life—he was born in 1849—W. E. Henley, the writer, never knew what a day's perfect health meant. When little more than a boy he was attacked by a disease which necessitated the amputation of one foot. He was told later by the doctors that the sacrifice of the other leg was necessary were he to live. The fame of Dr. Lister had reached Henley, and, penniless and almost friendless, he determined to try Edinburgh infirmary. Thither he traveled third class in physical suffering such as few have known, and when he reached the infirmary his whole possessions amounted to a few shillings. His confidence in Lister was justified, and his leg was saved. He was and remained a cripple, but neither hopeless nor helpless. His astounding nimbleness under these conditions suggested to Robert Louis Stevenson the physical sketch of John Silver.

Halley's Achievements.

Edmund Halley was a very great man. He was not only the first to predict correctly the return of a comet [illegible] known by his name [illegible] Newton had arrived [illegible] that the attraction [illegible] [illegible] the distance. While these [illegible] achievements of his are well known, it seems to have been forgotten that Halley devised a method of determining the age of the ocean from chemical denudation.

Indifference.

"Which do you prefer, summer or winter?"

"I've no preference," replied Mr. Growcher. "It is just as depressing to me whether I put in a large portion of my time reading about the hottest day ever or the coldest day ever."—Washington Star.

Heavy Hearts.

Mr. Bacon—There, what did I tell you? This paper says the average man's heart weighs from ten to twelve ounces; the average woman's from eight to ten. Mrs. Bacon—Of course men's hearts weigh more. They are a good deal harder.—Yonkers Statesman.

Thorough Understanding.

"I presume you understand an auto thoroughly?"

"Thoroughly—that is, I know when it won't run there is something the matter with it."—Detroit Free Press.

Muir Could Drive a Bargain.

Most people know that the famous naturalist and writer, John Muir, left a substantial fortune behind him when he died, but few perhaps are aware that during the ten years he dedicated altogether to business he was known as the hardest man at a bargain in the whole of California. "As a bargainer," writes Arno Dosch, "John Muir was pure Scotch. Muir had the biggest and most dependable supply of Tokay grapes in California. The San Francisco jobbers bought his yield to meet their regular shipments to the north and east. There were at that time four big fruit jobbing houses in San Francisco, and they tell tales yet in Commission row of the bargains John Muir drove with them. He was never known to name a price first. Whether he was selling grapes or land, he tried first to find out what the other man was willing to pay. But he always had a price in mind, and he got it. It made no difference what was the market price of grapes. He made the jobbers pay what he expected."

Lighting London Streets.

In 1416 citizens were obliged to hang out candles on dark nights to illuminate the streets. This was enforced by an act of parliament in 1661. In 1684 Edward Heming, the inventor of oil lamps, made a daring offer, which was that for a proper consideration he would engage to place a light before every tenth door on dark nights from 6 p. m. till midnight. His proposal was accepted, and he was given the exclusive right to light the streets as indicated for a term of years. But the scheme provoked a great uproar among the people. Some of them enthusiastically applauded it and hailed Heming as the greatest benefactor the city ever had. Thousands of other furiously denounced him and his scheme and demanded that the contract be canceled. Heming held on, and in time the people became reconciled to having the streets lighted. In 1736 the city government assumed the responsibility.

Escapes In War.

Until war ceases, which it will be the greatest miracle of all, it will always be the exhibition ground of miracles. How can a bullet puncture a man's coat behind and before or pierce his bootleg and sock and be gravely shaken out of his [illegible] without wounding him? And what mysterious tunnel does the human body contain which leads a bullet dexterously around the heart, a hair's breadth from the seat of life, yet never rending it—a phenomenon vouched for by more than one army surgeon? Shells have burst thunderously between the very legs of soldiers and left them still soldiers. Shells of two inches in diameter have passed through legs and arms without shattering the bone or bursting at the impact, although there appears to be literally no room for such a merciful performance. In fact, a history of the escapes in war would be wild reading even after a course of Munchausen.—Exchange.

Well Put.

A man who kept a roadhouse in Rhode Island was called upon to testify in a suit as to the number of cubic yards hauled in some rock removing and filling in of lots in the vicinity.

Naturally enough, he showed very little knowledge of the matter, his idea of a cubic yard being so indefinite that it was suspected he hardly comprehended the term. In order to facilitate his understanding the judge said:

"Listen, witness! Assuming this inkstand to be three feet across the top this way and three feet that way and three feet in height, what would you call it?"

"Well, your honor," said the witness, without hesitation, "I should say it was some inkstand."—New York Times.

The Kings of Denmark.

The dust of the Danish kings is kept in a great cathedral at Roskilde, an old town twenty miles from Copenhagen. Every year the entire royal family always pays a visit to Roskilde in obedience to an ancient custom. On one of the pillars are marks showing the height of Peter the Great, Nicholas the Iron Czar, Alexander III. of Russia, the king of England and many other kings. The cathedral was built in the eleventh century. It has two mighty towers which can be seen at a long distance. The oldest grave is that of King Harold I., who died in 987.—Exchange.

Think It Over.

There is a fortune for the man who can invent some sort of machine with which he can cut his own hair.

And the man who can concoct some sort of a mixture in which a dose of castor oil can be effectually concealed.

And a summer belt that will stay put.—Richmond Times Dispatch.

The Better Job.

"You men are not so smart," jeered the bachelor girl. "It takes you an hour to sew on a button."

"It does," acknowledged the widower, who had sewed and had been sewed for. "But that button never comes off."—Judge.

But They Don't Pay a Rentette.

"So you were up to see the Newlyweds. What do you think of their flat?"

"Flat? It's merely a flatette, consisting of kitchenette, parlorette, chamberette and bathlette."—Exchange.

Cat, Eh?

"Bella is very proud of her pedigree."

"Humph! Were her ancestors Maltese or Angoras?"—Puck.

We must consider that we were born for the good of the whole.—Seneca.

LURE OF THE EASY CHAIR.

Do Not Let It Wean You From Good Healthful Exercise.

The United States public health service has issued a bulletin against the rocking chair, the "old armchair," about which poets have woven some of their prettiest verse; the office chair and any sort of a chair so comfortable in form that it invites repose.

Not because germs of a deadly sort lurk in the easy chair, upholstered or plain. Not for that reason does the health service of our government condemn it, but because a man with an easy chair at hand is likely to form the habit of sitting in it when he ought to be up and around, taking exercise that he must have if he is to keep well.

The easy chair is to blame for much of the heart and kidney disease, appendicitis and indigestion which afflict the business men of our day and carry so many of them off when they ought to be in the prime of life. These diseases were almost unknown a generation ago when men worked more in the open air. Walking was the thing that kept them well and strong up to eighty and ninety years of age.

But now men sit as they ride to and from work in motor or street cars. They sit at their work in office or factory. About the only so called "exercise" many of them get is riding in a motorcar. It is a "sitting down" age, and the government warns of its dangers.

MAKINGS OF A HAPPY MAN.

Qualities That Make Life a Joy For Their Possessor.

We have noticed the happiest man many a time. He works for his living, and he gets a good one. One thing we notice is he is a man of fine habits, doesn't squander a cent on liquor, tobacco or betting. He saves his money and is getting ready to buy some property. He loves his home, plays with the children, reads good books and keeps company with his wife. Because of his good habits he saves a little which will give him a chance to make an investment.

And then there is another thing: he is a reliable man. He does good work. He will not smooth over bad work. He is honest in whatever he does. Every dollar he gets represents just that much of honest labor. It is this, largely, that makes him prosperous and happy.

Water keeps its own level, and so do conduct and character and prosperity. If a man is mean and low, so will the consequences be. He cannot be one thing and his experience another. A low lived man may grow rich and happy, but it will not be for long. Anybody can tell what's the matter with a man if he is with him a day. He will soon see if the other is a spleen, a stomach, an uplift or a hope. —Ohio State Journal.

Saving For a Sunny Day.

Jake Pentoff was a unique character. He had a large family, and, although he was reasonably diligent in the use of saw and ax on the village woodpiles, he frequently came to seek aid from the city fathers.

"I gotta haff a sack of flour," said Jake on one occasion. "I'm all out and my family iss starvin'."

"All right, Jake," said the official. "If you need a sack of flour and have no money to buy it with we'll get you a sack. But see here, Jake. There's a circus coming to town in a few days and if we get you a sack of flour are you sure that you will not sell it and take your family to the circus?"

"Oh, no," said Jake. "I already got dat safed up. Yes, I got money to go to the circus." Youth's Companion.

Controlling the Temper.

Good health is the first requisite of a good temper. All one knows or feels finds expression through the body. Thought, will, action, are all influenced by its condition. Whatever impairs the integrity of the body or disturbs the harmony of its wonderful organization creates discord for the whole being. Unpleasant feelings due to ill health are likely to produce corresponding unpleasantness of disposition. The disorder, if prolonged, results in a bad habit thus becoming an element in individual character. Deranged digestion, vitiated blood and other impaired vital processes are at the foundation of much of the irritability, impatience, caprice, [illegible] and so called naughtiness of childhood.—Good Health.

Ginger and Pepper.

Ginger was well known in England even before the Norman conquest, being often referred to in the Anglo-Saxon manuscripts of the eleventh century. It was very common in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, ranking next in value to pepper, which was then the commonest of all spices, costing on an average about 1s 6d a pound.—London Mail.

Complete Success.

"Somebody told Vanessa that if she would walk backward down the stairs she would see her intended."

"Did it work?"

"Completely. She fell down the stairs, and now she is engaged to the bright young doctor they called in." St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Negative Judgments.

Negative things often show positive traits. For example, it is fairly safe to judge a man by the company he quits and by the things he does not say.—Youth's Companion.

From the evils sent by heaven there is deliverance; from the evils we bring upon ourselves there is no escape.—Jitsu Go Kyo.