

IN COLDEST ALASKA

PHENOMENA RESULTING FROM LOW TEMPERATURE.

Vegetables, Fruit, Eggs, Etc., Allowed to Freeze Hard as Bullets and Thawed When Used.

Strange manifestations appear (in Alaska) as a result of the extreme cold. One is the way a fire burns in the stove. It roars and crackles like a great forge, and wood in the stove seems to dissolve in the flames like a chunk of ice. The wood is gone and we wonder where the heat went. At 60 degrees below, every stovepipe throws out a great white cloud of smoke and vapor, resembling a steamboat in its whiteness, and this cloud streams away for 50 to 100 feet, writes Chester W. Tennant, in Popular Mechanics.

Prospectors, in attempting to boil a dish of rice or beans upon a campfire unprotected from the weather, find that the side of the dish which is in the fire will boil while the part of the dish exposed to the weather has frozen. To remedy this, the dish is set completely into the fire.

Edged tools subjected to this temperature become as hard and brittle as glass and will break as readily under strain. I have seen a pop safety valve blowing off steam when weather was below 60 degrees, with iceicles which had formed by the condensation while it was blowing off hanging from the outer rim of the valve.

All vegetables, potatoes, apples, fruit, eggs, etc., can be allowed to freeze until they become like bullets. To make ready for use, place them in cold water half a day before using, and the frost will slowly withdraw without injury to the article.

Exposed parts of the body would freeze in this temperature while going the distance of one block. Mr. Tennant tells of remarkable results obtained by thawing out frozen feet, hands or ears in coal oil. The members are immersed in the oil, sometimes for four or five hours, and they thaw without leaving any injurious results. The hint from the north bay may be well worth remembering to those exposed to the severer turns of temperature in our own winters. Of the kerosene treatment Mr. Tennant says:

This is absolutely a safe remedy, and one thus escapes the surgeon's knife, as no bad results follow. This is not hearsay, as a man was saved a few years ago at our office by the night watchman who found him in the snow (four degrees below zero) and both hands frozen to the wrists. He was taken into the office and treated as above for about five hours, when all the frost was drawn out without so much as losing a finger tip.

The physicians were amazed, as they thought amputation would have to be resorted to. His hands were as white and hard as marble, and when placed in the oil they snapped and crackled as the oil began to act upon the ice crystals.

This remedy should be remembered by all residents of cold climates, as it would save many a limb. The temperature of the oil should be about the same as that of the living room (about 60 degrees above zero).

One has to be careful about touching things with unprotected hands. It is dangerous to take hold of a door knob when it is 90 degrees below zero or thereabouts, with the uncovered hands, unless you are careful instantly to release your hold, for if you do it will freeze your inner palm in five seconds, and the result is the same as from touching a red-hot stove.

Coal oil begins to thicken at 40 degrees below, and at 60 and 70 degrees below becomes as thick as lard, or but a very little darker, and can be cut out of the can with a knife the same as you would cut lard or butter. A lighted lamp or lantern left exposed in this temperature will freeze up and go out in 30 minutes. I have not seen gasoline become stiff yet from any of the low temperatures that we have experienced.

Exports from Gulf Ports. The growing importance of the gulf ports for the shipment of western produce is gathered from a statement recently issued by the department of commerce. For the 10 months ending with April, Galveston, New Orleans and Mobile exported \$30,000,000 worth of breadstuffs, against \$33,000,000 worth for all the Chesapeake ports, including Baltimore, and \$27,000,000 worth for New York. New York's lead is readily accounted for by the advantage it has in the cheap water route through the lakes and the Erie canal, which also give her not a little wheat from the Canadian fields. With a deep waterway from Chicago to the mouth of the Mississippi New Orleans, which contributes \$15,500,000 to the above total of \$30,000,000 for the three gulf ports, would in all likelihood excel New York in the shipments of breadstuffs and other western produce.

Watch Speaks Time. A Swiss watchmaker has invented a watch which speaks the time from a tiny phonograph. A very small hard rubber plate has the vibrations of the human voice imprinted on it, and is actuated by clockwork, so that at a given time the articulation is made, indicating the hour. The utterance is sufficiently strong to be heard 20 feet away. It is possible by means of a device of this kind to combine sentiment with utility, as the vibrations can be made by any clear voice, and a man's watch may tell him the time in the tones of wife or children.

AMERICAN ARTISTS ABROAD

Their Merit Recognized and Rewarded Earlier Than It Is at Home.

Once more an American artist's picture holds the place of honor at the exhibition of the Royal Academy in London. Sargent had attained that honor; now it is Abbey's turn, with a picture distinctly American in subject, representing Columbus landing in the new world. Several other well-known American artists figure among the notable exhibitors. In the two annual picture shows now open in Paris, the same fact is true, reports the New York World.

American artists frequently complain, as do singers and musicians, that the surest way to distinction at home is recognition abroad. The protest is accepted here as merit as it is in France and England.

The distinction attained by Sargent in London has done more than all his early successes in this country to assure his preeminence. The same may be said to be true of Abbey, although fame came to him easy as an illustrator. Something may be due to the circumstance that for years both have done most of their work abroad. Beyond a doubt, however, art is viewed far more hospitably in Paris and London than in New York. We have yet no art exhibitions that occupy so large a place in popular life as the regular shows of the two foreign capitals.

It is noteworthy also that more contemporary American artists have room in the Luxembourg museum, where living painters must await admission to the Louvre, than in our own Metropolitan. The Paris list counts about 25, among them Whistler, Sargent, Winslow Homer, La Farge, Alexander Harrison, Henry Mosler, Walter MacEwen, Carl Melchers, Miss Cassatt, Edwin L. Weeks and H. O. Tanner.

Under the old management American artists were treated with suspicion at the Metropolitan. It was sometimes difficult to get their works through the museum's doors even as gifts.

Fortunate, all that is being rapidly changed. Sir Purdon Clarke advocates the necessity of building up a representative American collection. Mr. George A. Heurn has donated a large fund, of which the income is reserved for the purchase of American works. It is a curious commentary on American taste that it was not until a foreign director was put in charge of the Metropolitan that American artists were promised something of the same public recognition they receive from the French government.

TURKEY WITH WOODEN LEG

Tale of a Gobbler That Smacks Somewhat of the Munchausen Flavor.

In most communities there are certain persons who possess peculiar characteristics, habits and beliefs, and this is true of the long shore sportsman of the old Mother State as of persons dwelling elsewhere, says Forest and Stream.

Many of the old time sportsmen still carry and use their muzzle loading guns, which cannot be displaced by more modern arms. They usually manage to bag a good many birds and other game, and this is chiefly due, it is believed, to their knowledge of the habits of the game. They seldom go out without finding something.

A story is told of one gunner who if any of the shot should fall from his hands while loading his gun will at once return home and make no further effort to hunt that day, believing, as he says, that those lost were his luck shot, and it would be useless for him to continue the hunt.

Another, whom I will call here Capt. Pete, is a sailor and all round sportsman. He loves to tell of his adventures with his dogs and gun, and is seldom seen without them. He tells many stories about the accuracy of Sweet Lips, his gun, and declares he can beat any man "a-shootin' for a turkey in the United States of Virginia."

On the occasion of a turkey hunt near the Rappahannock river Capt. Pete claims to have shot a 40-pound wild turkey, for which he was offered \$4 cash. The gray whiskers on the turkey's breast were 18 inches long, and he had one wooden leg. Here Capt. Pete gives a laugh that could be heard a half mile away. "Sar, he was the biggest turkey I ever saw. There were 18 fellows in the bunch of us, and four others besides, and all ate a sumptuous meal from one-half of his breast."

Uncle Pete says he cannot account for that one wooden leg unless that turkey had been previously owned by some one as a pet wild turkey.

Natural Arm Chair. A gardener in Korea has formed a natural arm-chair by twisting a growing vine to the required shape. It is also studded with seeds of the ginkgo tree, which have grown into the fiber of the vine. After the chair was fashioned in this way it was cut from the ground, dried and polished until it resembled mahogany. It is 3 feet 4 inches high, 25 inches wide and weighs over 100 pounds.

ETHERIAL BODY VISIBLE.

Semi-Transparent Mass Surrounding the Bones Penetrable by Rontgen Rays.

They say they have seen the ethereal body of one of man's subtle bodies, interpenetrating the dense physical body. The orientals have long claimed to have seen it with a higher vision and the occidentals are now seeing it by the aid of instruments. In being able to see the skeleton of a live person by Rontgen rays we have gone far to surmounting difficulties in making out the shadow of the ethereal body. A hazy, semi-transparent mass surrounds the bones in a sketch which seems to invite definition by simple methods of research requiring little more than a better understanding of the optics of the different rays of light to give us a glimpse of the man that survives the mortal case ment. The ethereal body, erroneously termed the soul, seems to be a compound of those electric corpuscles of which matter is supposed to consist, with the unknown principle of animal life, and it is obviously a connecting link between mind and matter. A discovery of this sort is calculated to revolutionize the mental sciences and correct many erroneous ideas. It particularly is important to ascertain how the ethereal body acts during life. Many doubt the existence of any inner form of this kind. But it is an established belief in the east, especially in India, handed down from ancient days. It is difficult to see how their knowledge could have been so complete, even including the fact that the ethereal body never grew old after attaining maturity, unless they had been able to catch sight of the inner form.

RAPID FLIGHT OF TIME. Mule That Aged Five Years Between the Months of February and June. Mr. Justice Brewer, of the United States supreme court, in lecturing to his law class at the George Washington university, says the American Spectator, told the following story: "I knew of a case once where two darkies swapped mules. One of them was an old hand at the business, and in making the trade he represented his mule to be seven years old, and told of the many good traits the animal had not. This was in February. About two months later the other darky began to realize that he had been victimized in the bargain and that the beast was fully 12 years old. So he decided to go back and tell the swindler he had lied to him about the animal. However, owing to it being the busy season of farming, he was not able to go until about the middle of June. He finally did go, and told his man what he thought of his rascally misrepresentations about the mule. "You say," said the other fellow, "dat when you got de mule in February he was seven years old, and now it's June and he's 12 years old?" "Yes, I do!" was the angry response. "Well, sah, time sure do fly."

JAMAICANS LACK GINGER.

Seek Employment at Panama, But Are Said to Be Wasteful and Stupid.

Jamaicans are apparently jacks of all trades. Hungry for the big wages of Panama, school teachers, barbers, shoemakers, store clerks have flocked to the isthmus to find employment as masons, carpenters, blacksmiths and painters. Indifferently, says Everybody's Magazine, they are wasteful; they are stupid; they are possessed with an unutterable hatred of exertion other than conversation, preferably on religious or ethical topics. Here are some more statistics from my friend the foreman of painters: Hospital 54 is a building about 40 feet square; the amount of white lead required for the paint to be applied to it would be, here in the states, about 75 pounds; it was necessary to use 250 pounds of white lead on the job; none of it was stolen; none was carried away; that white lead and all the other wasted materials which were mixed with it are chargeable to the Jamaica negro's inefficiency. Yet the canal must be built with Jamaican labor in the main. Some workmen are being brought from Galicia, in Spain; some have been imported from Martinique; a few, very few, have come down from the United States.

Swiftest of Torpedoes. The new torpedo of the United States navy is one of the most powerful sea weapons in existence. It will travel more than two and a quarter miles, or twice the range of the Whitehead torpedo, which it supersedes. The new missile is turbine driven. The government will purchase and construct 400 of these torpedoes at a cost of several millions.

Strong Hint in the Figures. "Gladys," called her pa, "what time is it?" "It's eleven, father." "It's 12 up here. Eleven and 12 are 23." And then the young man departed.—Houston Chronicle.

May Know More of Future. Popley (bosomfully)—I tell you what, that boy of mine knows quite a lot for his size. Stinson—Oh, he'll grow.—Philadelphia Press.

Good Fellows to Be Found. The girl who marries a fellow to reform him seems to lose sight of the fact that there are lots who don't need reforming.—Philadelphia Record.

THE PILLAGER INDIANS.

Hereditary Home of a Tribe Who Trace Back Perhaps Twenty Centuries.

A long, deep, clear and very cold body of water called Bronside lake, north of Lake Superior, near the Canadian boundary, contains, among over 100 other beautiful islands, among them sunny islet that is of great interest to the archaeologist.

These islands and waters, writes Frank Abel Flower, in Records of the Past, constitute the hereditary home of the Pillager Indians, who are pagans. One of these islands (known as Flower Island) is, as it has been for generations, the seat of the Pillager kings. On it sleep, according to tribal tradition, over 50 successive Pillager rulers, the ancestors of the present chief or king, who, he says, must have reigned an average of 30 or 40 years each, as he himself has been chief for more than half a century.

Think of a dynasty extending over a period of perhaps 20 centuries! The more modern graves are carefully roofed with cedar bark, which, when kept dry and away from the earth, is almost imperishable. The very ancient graves have been essentially obliterated by the ravages of the elements. At the head of each of the traceable graves is carved the peculiar heraldic insignia of the king who sleeps beneath, and above him are placed receptacles for the mah-no-min (wild rice), fish, berries and other food which are brought annually by the related members of the tribe to appease, as they suppose, the hunger of the departed.

PERFUME MADE IN GERMANY

Growth of Industry Makes That Country Rival of France and England.

Vice Consul Fuller writes from Hannover that the German perfume industry is now one of the most important and successful in the world, rivaling that of France or England. He describes it in the following letter: "Some of the biggest factories are in Leipzig, but Berlin, Carlsruhe and Hamburg are important centers of the trade. There has been a vast increase in the last few years in the diversity of essential oils produced from plants and 40 varieties of those plants are employed in the German factories, which use as well such products of foreign lands as nutmeg, cinnamon, camphor, balsams, pepper, musk and ambergris.

The production of the essential oil is expensive, ranging from about \$27 a pound downward, according to the scarcity of the oil in the plant. With fresh flowers the distillation takes place as near the place of picking, as possible, as the fresher the products the better. The stills contain about 200 pounds of flowers and the necessary amount of water. Great care is taken as to the amount of heat supplied and to its regularity, the process being thoroughly controlled, an excellent product resulting.

SCENE IN THE CATSKILLS. Arcadian Picture of a Mountain Village with Its Odd Characters.

In a dreamy mood you finally make your way back to the road, and idly wander on until you reach the village post office and general store, writes Albert Arnold, in Four-Track News. You gaze curiously at its barn-like appearance, and at the queer characters congregated there. It is the noon hour, and they are waiting for the one great event of the day, the arrival of the rural mail man—whose white horse can be seen coming leisurely up the road at a snail's pace. A smile curves your lips, as you mark the contrast between this raw-boned farmer, in his blue-jean overalls, and the city postman, in his spruce gray uniform. Nevertheless, in sunshine or storm, the rural mail man is as faithful as his city cousin. You ask this unique "Uncle Sam" how he likes traveling the mountain roads in stormy weather, and a mild look of surprise breaks over his honest features, as he strokes his chin and draws, "O-h, I don't like it so very good."

DESIRED TO BE PREPARED.

Blacksmith Wanted His Forge Apron to Be Ready for Any Emergency.

In Sandown, N. H., there once resided a blacksmith, Timothy Canuey, strong and healthy, never having been ill an hour during his manhood years. He was suddenly stricken with a fever. His wife, Mary, was frantic when he became delirious, relates the New York News.

The old village doctor being summoned, was asked, in a fearsome voice, "Is he very bad, doctor?" "He is very low; won't live the day out," he replied, and leaving some "drops," departed.

Soon after the doctor's departure "Tim" regained consciousness. The wife, kneeling by the bedside, thought of his future state. "Tim, dear," she inquired, "dye think ye'll go to heaven?" "I hope so," he answered. "But, Mary, dear, would ye mind going to the forge and bringing me big leather apron, and have it handy by me, in case there is any mistake?" "Tim" is somewhere in Maine wielding his hammer, as well as ever.

A Man's Friends. A good man is often distinguished by the friends that he hasn't got.—Atlanta Journal.

DISEASE DEFINED BY ODOR

Sense of Smell Relied Upon by Experts to Determine Nature of Ailments.

The acuteness of the sense of smell is far greater in many of the lower animals, dogs, for example, than in man, and they employ it in guiding them to their food, in warning them of approaching danger and for other purposes, says the Sparta. The sphere of the susceptibility to various odors is more uniform and extended in man, and the sense of smell is capable of great cultivation. Like the other special senses, it may be cultivated by attention and practice. Experts can discriminate qualities of wines, liquors, drugs, etc. Diseases have their characteristic odors.

Persons who have visited many different asylums for the insane recognize the same familiar odor of the insane. It is not insane asylums alone, but prisons, jails, workhouses, armies in camp, churches, schools and nearly every household, that have characteristic odors. It is when the insane, the prisoners and the soldier are aggregated in large groups or battalions that their characteristic odor is recognized. Most diseases have their characteristic odors and by the exercise of the sense of smell they could be utilized in different diagnosis.

For example, fever has a mousy odor, rheumatism has a copious sour-smelling acid sweat. A person afflicted with pyæmia has a sweet nauseating breath. The rank, unbearable odor of pus from the middle ear tells the tale of the decay of osseous tissue. In scurvy the odor is putrid, in chronic peritonitis musky, in serofolia like stale beer, in intermittent fever like fresh baked brown bread, in fever ammoniacal, in hysteria like violets or pineapple. Measles, diphtheria, typhoid fever, epilepsy, phthisis, etc., have characteristic odors.

ABLE TO FOOL THE SENSES

Psychological Investigators Get Some Curious Results in Yale Experiments.

Curiously interesting results have been obtained by experiments on hallucinations of the senses at the Yale psychological laboratory. A person placed in a quiet room was asked to note the intensity of a tone which would be sounded every time a telegraph receiver clicked. At first the tone was actually produced, but afterwards, on the tone was omitted, while the clicking was repeatedly continued. Still the subject of the experiment believed that he heard the tone as before with every click of the instrument.

Another experiment consisted in dropping a light pith ball on the hand of a person so placed that he could not see what was done. Each fall of the ball was timed to correspond with a sound regularly emitted by a metronome. After a while the ball was no longer dropped, but the subject of the experiment continued to feel, or imagine that he felt, the touch of the ball at every sound from the metronome.

In a third experiment a blue bead was placed in the center of a white ring and a person was requested to approach the ring and note, by means of a tape measure at his side, the distance at which the bead first became visible to him. Later the bead was secretly removed, but still on arriving at the previously determined distance the person believed that he saw the bead.

HER PRAYER FOR MAMMA.

Special Clause in Tot's Supplication Prompted by Fear of Deportment.

A Wallbrook mother a few days ago before starting on a trip to Atlantic City told her two little daughters, whom circumstances forced her to leave at home, of the speed with which the great engines would hurry her train to the resort by the ocean and of miles and miles of glistening rails over which she would travel before reaching her destination, relates the Baltimore Herald.

That afternoon, after kissing the children good-by she asked them to remember her in their evening devotion, to which request the youngsters tearfully acquiesced. When the usual bedtime came around, the servant, after preparing them for their cribs, told them to kneel down and say their prayers. The younger of the tots was much longer in her devotions than her elder sister, and insisted on making a separate appeal for each member of the household. Toward the end of her prayer her nurse was much surprised to hear the child say: "And, Dear Lord, above all else, don't let mother run off the track."

How Insects Use Flowers.

It is astounding to think of the result of this mutual, and yet independent working. Every shade of color, from pale yellow to the richest blue; every peculiarity of form, from the flat shape of the buttercup to the intricate windings of the columbine; every degree of sweetness, from the insipidity of many flowers to the rich sugarciness of the honeysuckle, and every kind of scent, from the foul odor which attracts vulgar flies to the most delicate perfumes that delight the bees, all have proceeded from this connection of insects with flowers.—Outing Magazine.

His Defense.

"You are charged with beating your wife while drunk. What have you to say?" "Your honor, had I been sober my wife would have beaten me."—N. Y. Press.

Might Ome Handy.

"I love thee!" vowed the sentimentalist. "I swear it by yon blue sky—by the purple seas—by the green forest—by the yellow moon—by..." "Say," interrupted the practical girl. "It would suit me a heap better if you'd put all that in black and white."—Cleveland Leader.

PICTURE OF CONEY ISLAND.

Penning by a Soulfull "Geezer" Who Collided with an "Argosy" of Hen Fruit.

There is a solemn hush, and all hearts await the setting off of the next piece of fireworks, relates a New York Herald writer. I am filled with a vague unrest as the first ball—one of a velvet texture—pops into the air from a Roman candle. It is of a rich sapphire hue. I give an involuntary shudder, for I am ill at ease and completely undone. In another moment a red ball, more beautiful by far than the garden's brightest rose, darts on the parabolic, and before it is quite crumbled into thinnest air a cold chill creeps over me and I instinctively button my coat. Then another ball of that lovely tone of green which reaches its highest point of perfection in a crime de mente projects itself into the starry vistas of the perfect summer night, and I suddenly sidestep with the subtle quickness of a snake and crouch ready to spring at a moment's notice. While in this attitude and before I am aware, I notice myself silhouetted against a background of Tyrian purple light, and I duck as from a thunder bolt, until the ball which cast it has dissolved. Alas, I wring my hands and beat my breast and murmur dolefully, if not soulfully: "Woe is me." And when a large white ball, more beautiful than a fairy witchery, darts into the air with a sudden burst and sends forth myriads of smaller balls of all colors in a wild, picturesque cluster, I jump behind a Rose of Sharon bush and dream nostalgically of that never to be forgotten night last spring when, as Hamlet out in Oshkosh, I was compelled to face an argosy of soft-bellied Easter eggs and so drunk was caused to bunk most painfully like a human tulip bed in full blossom as I fled to wrap the drapery of the night about me.

MIGRATION OF WILD GEESE. How the Old Leader of a Flock Gathers It and Starts on Its Journey.

At the end of March or during the first week in April all the gray geese in the outer Herkades collect in one place before taking their departure for their nesting haunts within the Arctic circle. To estimate their numbers is impossible, and to behold this vast concourse of geese as one of the sights of a lifetime. The vast host of birds stands packed together in a huge phalanx till the king of the graylegs starts the flight. As the old leader ascends a hundred thousand voices stir him, but none stir till from overhead he gives the call for his subjects to follow him.

Some fifty birds rise in the air and follow him, and as they gradually assume the wedge-like formation with three single birds in a string at the apex of the triangle, and in a few minutes are out of sight. When they have been fully started the king returns, and after a few minutes rest he goes into the air again, and the same process is gone through before he leads off another band.

Again and again he returns until all are gone but 200 old veterans, which rise to meet him in the air as he flies back to them. Then, with their wings to their head, they also wing their way toward the pole not to return until the following October.

MEASURING DEPTH OF AIR. Atmospheric Envelope of Earth Determined by Interesting Scientific Observation.

One hundred and 31 miles is the height of the atmosphere as measured by Prof. T. J. J. See, who determines the thickness of the air envelope by noting the difference between the time of sunset and the complete disappearance of blue from the sky. The moment at which the blue changes into black can be observed quite easily with approximate certainty by the naked eye when the air is clear, and by trigonometry may be ascertained the distance below the horizon of the sun at the moment of change. By this means may be calculated the height of the smallest illuminated particles of oxygen and nitrogen which give to the sky its blueness of tint by the reflection of the smallest wave lengths of the sun's light. The instant of change from blue to black is possibly a little difficult of exact observation, but the method is not more doubtful than that based in the observation of shooting stars. The shooting star method gives a result not greatly differing from the vanishing blue method. The former gives the height of the atmosphere at 109 miles.

Health as a Business Asset. The average man is not accustomed to regard his health as his very best asset, yet that is precisely what it is. The man who will accord due regard to his health, from a strictly business standpoint, will go farther, last longer and accomplish more in the end, than one who makes health an after-consideration. Success which is attained at the expense of health is worth absolutely nothing to the man who attains it. There is no pleasure either in the process or in the final result.—St. Louis Republic.