

OTWAY NEWS ITEMS.

Messrs Bryant and Ira Gillikin who have been in Onslow county fishing for several weeks returned home Friday night to spend the week end with their families.

Mrs. E. L. Lawrence spent Saturday night and Sunday the guest of her mother in law Mrs. W. H. Lawrence.

Mr. and Mrs. Levi Gillikin and little son Levi Jr., left Sunday for Newport News, Va., after spending several days with Mr. Gillikin's parents Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Gillikin.

Mr. and Mrs. Mack Hunnings of Lenoxville spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mrs. Hunnings' mother Mrs. Richard Gillikin.

Mr. Harold Hancock is leaving Tuesday for New York where he will be employed for several months.

Mr. Anson Gillikin and son Cleveland are on the sick list and have been for several days.

Mrs. Carlton Willis spent Sunday night with her cousin Miss Fannie Lawrence.

Miss Wyona Lawrence is spending several days at Lenoxville with her aunt Mrs. Mack Hunnings.

Messrs Clifford and John Lewis of Lenoxville spent a while Sunday afternoon in their neighborhood visiting relatives.

Mr. John Lewis of Morehead City passed through Sunday afternoon on his way to the east.

HOW

AVALANCHE IN SWISS ALPS DESTROYS ALL THINGS.—A mountain climber, in discussing the accounts of recent avalanches in the southern alps, resulting in destruction and death, says:

The cause of these sudden descents is not far to seek. On the higher slopes there have been six or eight weeks of clear, almost uninterrupted frosts, which have caused the existing snow to become loose and powdery.

Now, under pressure of the recent heavy falls of fresh snow, this loose under snow has given way, and vast masses of it, gathering volume every moment, are plunging down the mountain sides, overwhelming sheep and unfortunate tourists and burying all that comes in their path.

This type of powdery avalanche, serious enough to life and limb, is as nothing compared with the real avalanche built up of accumulations of snow that may have commenced years ago.

These vast accumulations occur on the plateaus or less steep inclines. The pressure of each succeeding season's snow turns the under snow to ice, and winter after winter the mass increases in weight and volume.

A moment arrives when, owing either to pressure from higher levels or the mass growing so immense, it overcomes any resistance that holds it. Or, due to an exceptionally mild summer, the lowest stratum against the mountain side is melted and a sort of water cushion is formed upon which the whole glides forward.

There are other causes, but for some reason such as these the colossal mass commences to move slowly downward toward the valley. If the pace is slow it is known as a creeping avalanche and can be kept under constant observation. There is little immediate danger from it and peasants and farmers can be warned of the approaching peril.

Sometimes, however, an avalanche of this type will within a few hours of having become loosened hurl itself downward with the speed of an express train and a noise exceeding all imagination. Nothing can withstand it. Farms and homesteads are swept away or buried, forests of fir and pine are crashed down or carried away like so much straw; cattle, rocks, railways are all carried before it until either it comes to rest in lower levels or hurls itself over perpendicular walls of rock into the valleys beneath.

How Big Men Do Things

A friend of the late Henry M. Flagler, the Standard Oil giant who did so much for the development of Florida by constructing railroads, building hotels, etc., tells me this incident, which throws light on the manner of man Flagler was. This friend was chatting with Flagler when a telegram was handed him. He read it and handed it to his friend. It was from St. Augustine, where Flagler had built his monumental Ponce de Leon hotel. It read: "Hotel empty except for band playing at one end. What shall I do?" The manager was wondering whether he should pay off the band. What did Flagler reply? "Engage another band to play at the other end."

Flagler, like most of the stalwarts John D. Rockefeller gathered around him in his early days, had foresight and the courage of his convictions.—B. C. Forbes, in Forbes Magazine.

How Paint Preserves

Most people paint their homes for the sake of good looks. But houses should primarily be painted for the sake of preserving the wood, which is very porous. When the wood was still in the tree state the pores were filled with sap, and when cut the sap died out, leaving the pores open. If the wood should be left in the unprotected state, minus its bark, fungi and moisture soon would begin to rot and destroy it. So when painted, the paint penetrates the pores and forms, when dry, a tough, elastic coating, which is "anchored" to the surface by countless little "hooks" that extend into pores of the wood, and this coating or film preserves the wood by protecting it from those things which otherwise would quickly and surely destroy it.

How to Replant Vines

The Department of Agriculture says that grapevines which are ten years old may be replanted the same way that a vine a year old can be replanted. Dig out three or four of the larger stems with quite a bit of soil adhering. Cut back to the main stem, practically leaving only a few buds on the cane to develop new growth. Do not allow the vine to produce fruit until it is thoroughly established.

How Camphor is Made

As a perfume, camphor has been valued by the Chinese for centuries. Originally obtained from gum deposits it is now extracted from the wood itself, which, after being sawed through, is reduced to chips and heated in a still.

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