

"The Old Yellow Almanac." When Ella Wheeler Wilcox wrote the poem, having on the same heading as this article, she touched a chord that vibrated in thousands of hearts. For Ayer's Almanac, "The Old Yellow Almanac" of the poem, is intimately associated with the days and deeds of a part of the world's population. How large a part of the population this general statement may include can be gathered from the fact that the yearly issue of Ayer's Almanac is from 17,500,000 to 20,000,000 copies. It is printed in twenty-eight editions and in some eighteen languages, including, besides English—Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, German, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Bohemian, Welsh, Italian, French, etc. The old style almanac is looked upon by many as a relic of antiquity, especially the "patent medicine almanac," and many of the old-fashioned farmers of the present day are the first to appreciate it. But there are almanacs and almanacs. Even since Ayer's Almanac has been put out it has employed as high a class of mathematical and astronomical talent as is available in the country. The result is that it stands on a par, in respect of the reliability of its data, and the accuracy of its calculations with the U. S. Nautical Almanac, and testimony to this fact is found year after year in the letters, referred to the almanac department of the company, from students and mathematicians in various parts of the world. In its permanency and reliability Ayer's Almanac stands as a very fine type of the "patent Remedies"—indispensable in the family and reliable every day in the year. The 1897 edition of this almanac is the best and the cause of distribution through the druggists of the country.

**As to Children and Dogs.** Washington Irving has often been accused of saying that little dogs and children were infatuated members of French society. It is quite true that in the United States I never noticed that close and sentimental intimacy between human beings and quadrupeds so frequently seen in France. American life is so active, so desperately crowded, either usefully or socially, that perhaps it does not permit the loss of time inevitably brought about by the friendly intercourse with a dog. As for children, I believe that their importance is equally great in all countries; but it asserts itself in a more noisy manner in America than anywhere else. Everything is sacrificed to them, for they represent the future, which is all that counts in a country whose past is very short, and whose present is a period of high-pressure development. Yet no one must suppose that, before presenting an apology for French children, I intend to malign American children, as certain travelers have taken the liberty of doing very thoughtlessly, although they had met them only on steamships, cars, or at hotels, enjoying a holiday with that buoyancy which is the characteristic mark of the whole race. I have known some who were very well brought up, even from our point of view, and among those who were not I have admired precocious sense, vivacity of mind, quiet determination, and capacity for self-government, qualities which I should wish for all ours.—Century.

**Bear Adopts a Little Girl.** Little 4-year-old Helma Urel was dreged away from her home near Snowshoe, Pa., Oct. 22. She was swallowed up by the wilderness of the Allegheny Mountains. A large searching party turned out. On Saturday afternoon four lumbermen found the child about a mile west of Snowshoe, Pa. She was in a dense woods playing happily with two bear cubs. The men were taking Helma away when a 300-pound female bear dashed out from the underbrush. After a desperate struggle the bear was killed with a gun. Fritz Yameer's right arm was slightly lacerated and amputation may be necessary.

An American heiress has married a foreign nobleman who possesses a pedigree running back to the thirteenth century. Men whose ancestry runs back so far may find themselves in the position of Sydney Smith when he declared that he gave up pedigree hunting because he had invariably found some of his ancestors disappearing about the time of the assizes.

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FITS stopped free and permanently cured. No fits after first day's use. Free trial bottle and treatment. Send to Dr. Kline, 511 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
CASCARETS stimulate liver, kidneys and bowels. Never salinate, weaken or gripes. Dr. Winstons' Coughing Syrup for children's coughs, cures the croup, reduces inflammation, always pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.  
Just try a 10c box of Cascaret, candy cathartic, finest liver and bowel regulator made.  
If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. L. Thompson's Eye water. Druggist sell at 25c a bottle.

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ments are expensive. It is no experiment to take the medicine which thousands endorse as the best, which cures when others fail, namely

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The best-in fact the One True Blood Purifier.  
cure scabies, indigestion, biliousness, 25 cents.

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TEN FOR FIVE CENTS.  
This special form of Ripans Tablets is prepared from the original formula for the purpose of meeting the special needs of the modern traveler. It is small, light, and easy to carry. DIRECTIONS.—Take one or two at bed time or whenever you feel the need of it. If you are suffering from indigestion, take one or two before going to bed. An inviolable rule, both for the traveler and the home-keeper, is to keep a supply of Ripans Tablets. One free trial bottle will be sent to you if you send a stamped envelope to the manufacturer, with the name of your druggist. The trial bottle will be sent to you if you send a stamped envelope to the manufacturer, with the name of your druggist. The trial bottle will be sent to you if you send a stamped envelope to the manufacturer, with the name of your druggist.

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**RUSSELL INAUGURATED.**  
North Carolina's New Chief Executive Sworn In.  
At Raleigh, N. C., Tuesday last week, Daniel L. Russell was sworn in as Governor of this State for four years, amid a large assemblage of spectators and politicians. His message was not long. In the course of it he says: "There is a retribution in history. We give thanks to God that North Carolina has declared freedom of thought, speech and action, for toleration and respect for the opinions of all and for liberty regulated by just and equal laws." He says the following matters demand the attention of the Legislature: An increase in the tax rate for common schools and improvement of their management; the establishment of a reformatory for young criminals; adoption of vagrant laws; the investigation of the conduct of judges charged with drunkenness on the bench; reorganization of the criminal court districts so as to embrace more counties and the establishment of additional criminal districts and rotation of judges. He commends the election of the North Carolina railway by popular disapproval. He favors extending the jurisdiction of judges over the election law. The condition of the treasury, he says, is such as to demand the most severe economy. The exigency should be faced, not evaded; by the abolition of the labor commission and geological survey great revenue may be saved to the State and by close economy in all departments of the government may be cut down. He condemns lynchings and suggests speedy trials by jury in remote counties in favor of law and order. He condemns the lease of public lands to private parties. The strongest language goes for the Southern Railway Company; asks a revocation of lease and recovery of the property to the State. He asks legislation forbidding the paralleling of the North Carolina road; also prohibiting the control of any railroad by a system competitive to it. He condemns lobbyists, and says the General Assembly will be called on to deal with the management of townships and cities and there should be no attempt to avoid the necessity of protecting taxpayers of these municipalities against the danger of mismanagement by the ignorant elements. He says he wants no "Tammany Hall government" in North Carolina. He favors immigration and the passage of laws to induce it; favors the increase of expenditures for pensions and homes for disabled veterans. He stands by the appropriation to the University, and says the institution is a part of the State.

**TO PREPARE CHARCOAL FOR HOGS.**  
File old rails or any waste timber as coarsely as possible, cut a fire, throw on enough earth to cut off a considerable draft. When charring is complete put out the fire. In making cob charcoal, dig a pit in the ground, start a fire in the bottom, fill the pit level full of coals and cover with a light layer of earth; the coals will charn without burning. Hogs should always have access to charcoal.—American Agriculturist.

**AGRICULTURE.**  
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**SCIENTIFIC PIG FEEDING.**  
Scientific pig feeding has been undertaken at the Vermont Experiment Station. It was found that sixty-two per cent. of the market value of the food was got back in the value of the manure, when the latter was properly handled. The cost of food for a pound of increase in live weight and the profit were slightly in favor of the less watery ration, but the shrinkage at slaughter was the same in these pigs as in those fed on a dryer ration. Buttermilk had about four-fifths the feeding value of skim milk. Poland Chinas and Berkshires gave the same results, but in another test Berkshires outstripped Yorkshires. In most cases it costs more to keep pigs after a certain age than their gain in weight is worth. At the Danish station at Prok, feeding corn meal was followed by good results in every case. Corn meal may be fed to pigs under four months old with no bad results, provided the amount fed be not too great at first, but gradually increased, and the whole ration not too rich. The animals fed on cooked meal made a slightly larger gain than those fed on cooked meal. They gave good results.—New England Homestead.

**GROWING GRAIN TO FEED DOWN.**  
Eastern farmers when they grow grain always adopt the method of harvesting rather than allow hogs and other stock to run in and eat it. This is the best method always to be done with corn, and where there is some grain and losing altogether or nearly so the value of the corn stalks. This is now generally recognized as being too wasteful of valuable feed to be profitable. But some Western farmers think that growing rye to feed down is less wasteful than is corn for the same purpose. The rye straw as fed is undoubtedly not so valuable as the corn stalks, and where there is no market for the rye straw the grain crop may be grown for the purpose of trampling it down by hogs and pigs. A correspondent of the Prairie Farmer writes that he has found rye thus fed especially valuable for sows with young pigs. The little pigs pick up the rye grains scattered by the old sow as she crambles the rye heads. It is an excellent early feed, the rye coming to head before the Indian corn is any where near earing, and at a time when old corn in many farmers' cribs is exhausted. Besides, the rye is good for pound worth more for growing animals than is the Indian corn, as rye ranks next to wheat in nitrogenous food nutrition.—Boston Cultivator.

**PODS FOR FOWLS.**  
The natural food of fowls is composed of seeds, insects and grass. In the domestic condition we allow grain, grass and meat. Turkeys and chickens drink very little water when feeding, and even ducks and geese resort to water when feeding sometimes, in order to wash their bills more than to drink, says the Poultry Keeper. This brings up the question of the propriety of feeding soft food. It is known that ground grain absorbs a large volume of water, and when the mixture is apparently dry, quite a large proportion of water exists in it, though more so when the mixture is very moist and sloppy. It is not beneficial, as the results are sometimes injurious, bowel disease and indigestion prevailing. It is better to feed all food dry, if possible, and keep a trough full of water where the fowls can take what quantity they desire. Even ground food may be given in a dry condition, the different substances used being thoroughly mixed and placed in a trough. When chicks are fed they have cornmeal moistened several times a day and bowel disease simply because too much water is forced upon them in the food. The fowls never resort to wet food when they can get dry kinds, and this is a matter that deserves attention.

**The Telephone in Worship.**  
Jeffersonville is probably the only city in Indiana which can boast of having a telephone installed in one of its churches permanently for the purpose of conveying sermons and services to a member. The church which claims this distinction is the First Presbyterian. On its pulpit a long-distance phone gathers up the Sunday and weekday services and conveys them to the residence of Mrs. Dan Howard, an invalid, who can thus enjoy all the singing, preaching and praying which form a part of the church proceedings without leaving her home, which is probably one mile away. However, even when at church, Mrs. Howard uses a phone, which connects with her par, where a small transmitter is suspended, as she is hard of hearing.

**THE COMING EXPOSITION.**  
It is to be opened in Charlotte on May 1st, and will continue a month or longer.  
With no motive other than affording an opportunity for the instruction and entertainment of thousands of individuals throughout the Southern States, and an earnest desire to broaden and extend its usefulness to the community in general and the interests of the Y. M. C. A. of Charlotte especially, the women of Mecklenburg will inaugurate a grand Art, Loan, Industrial and Scientific Exposition at Charlotte, N. C., open May 1, 1897 to June 1, inclusive. While liberal donations are expected toward the success of this exposition, it is intended by the management that the arrangements will be so planned and executed that reciprocal benefits shall be felt by those who shall contribute. This will be accomplished by means of a thorough advertisement of the business and wares of the donors.  
A committee of representative citizens will lend efficient aid to the women of Mecklenburg in making the general success, and an entertaining and instructive programme of exercises will be arranged for each evening.  
This is not a money-making scheme to enrich individuals, but the general aim is to create a purpose fund for the local association, and a new enthusiasm for the Y. M. C. A. in this city, county and State and throughout the length and breadth of the country, so far as they can make the influence of the exposition felt. The cause is the cause of young men and of humanity. This century with all its achievements has brought forth no nobler enterprise than the Young Men's Christian Association.

**OTHER NATIONS FOLLOW.**  
**The Arbitration Treaty With England Olney's Victory.**  
The conclusion of a treaty of arbitration between Great Britain and the United States marks an epoch in the history of diplomacy. It is the first time that two great nations have ever joined in an agreement to submit their differences, whatever they may be, and whenever they may occur, to a court of reason instead of the arbitrament of war. In theory nearly all the civilized nations of the earth concede that arbitration is the proper mode of settling their disputes. It is believed by diplomats that this is the first step in a general adoption of the arbitration principle, and the treaty which has been concluded between Great Britain and the United States, or a similar one, will be signed by France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway and the Netherlands, and by Brazil, Uruguay, the Argentine Republic, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and the several countries of Central America. In case the other European nations join in a general treaty, it is believed that Germany, Austria and Russia will do the same, although they are not known as arbitral countries, and would not take the initiative in such a movement. Secretary Olney has won a great triumph, the greatest that has marked the diplomatic affairs of the United States for many years.

**Arrested for Forgery.**  
J. B. White, a prominent commission merchant of Norfolk, Va., and New York, has been arrested charged with forgery. The charge is brought by the Maunns Island Gun Club, of which he was secretary. A quantity of the club's stock had been sold in New York by White, and it is alleged that he forged the name of the treasurer to checks made payable to the order of that officer and appropriated the proceeds, amounting to some \$4,200.

**Seismic Activity.**  
On Monday morning an undulatory earthquake was experienced in the city of Oaxaca, Mexico, the first shock being very sharp, and the second very strong, but no harm was done of any consequence. There is much seismic activity in the State of Oaxaca, and at one point on the Pacific Coast earthquakes under the ocean have kept fishermen in continual alarm.

**Shot by His Victim's Father.**  
Monday, while Paul Davis, a negro, was being conveyed from Henrico county (Va.) jail to the court house, a shot was fired at him by a man named as Cora Twitchell, a white girl, the father of the girl, C. A. Twitchell, shot the negro, inflicting a wound that may prove fatal. Twitchell was immediately arrested by the police having Davis in charge and locked up.

**A Petersburg, Va., Failure.**  
At Petersburg, Va., W. H. Talley & Co., dealers in dry goods and notions, made an assignment. W. B. Mellin is the trustee. They are a large number of Northern creditors. The liabilities of the firm are in the neighborhood of \$17,000. Mr. Talley has been in business for a long time and his failure was a great surprise to his friends.

**See Spots From Florida.**  
A large black spot on the sun has caused great excitement among the negroes of several Florida counties. Under the ocean have kept fishermen in continual alarm.

**Mr. Bryan in Chicago.**  
W. J. Bryan arrived in Chicago Monday for the purpose of a conference with his publisher in reference to his forthcoming book. He immediately repaired to the Clifton House, where he had his breakfast.

**General News.**  
The works of the Baltimore Glass Co. have been started after being idle since June. Employment was given to 200 hands.  
At Minneapolis Saturday night a Great Western passenger train ran into a suburban street car, injuring a number of passengers, one of whom may die.  
At Johnstown, Pa., the Cambria Mill No. 12 and 16-inch mill, and the Scrap Mill resumed operations Monday, giving employment to many idle men. Two hundred men will also go to work at the Johnstown Steele Company motor works.

**Cost Less Than Five Dollars.**  
Without ostentation or display, and at an expense of less than five dollars to the State, Hon. Alva Adams, Democrat, was inaugurated as Governor of Colorado.  
**The Fitzsimmons and Corbett Fight.**  
It is reported on excellent authority that the fight between Corbett and Fitzsimmons is to be pulled off at Carson City, Nev.  
**Abolished the Charge.**  
Secretary Carlisle has abolished the charge of 8 cents per package on dutiable merchandise transported in bond from one port of the United States to another.  
**To Celebrate the Treaty.**  
On the doubtful assumption that the treaty of arbitration between this country and Great Britain will be ratified by the Senate, a great demonstration has been arranged for February 29, Washington's birthday, at Chicago, Ill.

**MONEY IN CHICKENS.**  
If you have your chickens, you know how to take care of their requirements, and you cannot spend your dollars learning by experience how to do it. We offer this to you for only 25c.  
**YOU WANT THEM TO PAY THEIR OWN WAY.**  
Even if you merely keep them as a diversion, in an effort to make them pay for themselves, you must know something about them. To meet this want we have written a book giving the exact and complete information you will need for only 25c.  
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**Breakfast Cocoa.**  
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3. Because beans of the finest quality are used.  
4. Because it is made by a method which preserves unimpaired the exquisite natural flavor and odor of the beans.  
5. Because it is the most economical, costing less than one cent a cup.  
Be sure that you get the genuine article made by WALTER BAKER & CO. Ltd., Dorchester, Mass. Established 1780.

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