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COLORED RAIN.

THE REASON WHY—BY A. S. DUANE.

There have been traditions for centuries of miraculous rains of blood, stones, animals and fishes, but even in this nineteenth century we are constantly hearing of red and black rain, only now-days science has held up the glass and the analysis, and told us the reason why.

The first memorable example of red rain fell in The Hague in 1670.

People awoke in the morning to find that the streams had seemingly all turned to blood, and the miraculous fluid was still falling from the skies. High and low dropped upon their knees praying, thinking that a plague had come upon them.

But there happened to be a scientific man with a small microscope, even then. He took some of the red water and examined it, and found that instead of its being a warning sent by Providence to foretell war and bloodshed, it was colored by minute red insects.

The man with the microscope told his discovery all over Holland, but when the war came by which Louis XIV. devastated the country, there were many who believed that the "red rain" had been sent us as a warning.

The red insect was a sort of water flea, known in science as *Pulex arborescens*.

On the 14th of March, 1813, the inhabitants of Gerace, Calabria, perceived a terrific cloud advancing from the sea with a violent wind.

At 2 o'clock in the afternoon this cloud changed to fiery red, and totally intercepted the light of the sun. The town was enveloped in darkness and people rushed to the cathedral, thinking the end of the world had come.

The fiery red cloud increased in intensity, thunder pealed, and with vivid flashes of lightning sheets of red rain fell, which the inhabitants took to be fire or blood. The rain finally grew lighter and ceased, having done no harm to anything.

Colored rain of a similar character to the Calabrian downpour, which has since fallen, has been proven to contain a red dust, which, when heated, changed to brown, and then to black. In it could be discovered small particles of mica. An analysis proved that the dust consisted of silica, alumina, lime, carbonic acid and oxide of iron.

It is probable that in all these cases it had been blown from some active volcano, carried a distance through the upper air, and finally descended with the fall of rain.

A similar rain, or rather deposit of dust, as it was not even wet, took place in the valley of Oneglia, Piedmont, during the night of the 27th of October, 1814. It covered the leaves and grass, and where it mingled with the dew made what seemed to be blood stains, a phenomenon which caused great excitement among the peasantry.

The blue rain has been found by analysis to be caused by a deposit of cobalt.

Sometimes the colored rains are tinted by the seeds of plants, which have been caught floating in the atmosphere.

On the 9th of November, 1819, a black rain fell at Montreal, Canada.

Some of the liquid was collected and sent to New York for analysis. It was found that the water was colored by soot. Owing to the dryness of the season an immense conflagration of some large forests, situated south of the Ohio river, had taken place; the wind blowing steadily north for some time, had conveyed these sooty particles into Lower Canada. At Birmingham, England, in May, 1886, at 11 in the morning, the town was enveloped in darkness. Gas was lighted everywhere, and a black rain fell, which blackened all the linen put out to bleach.

TRUSTS AND COMBINATIONS—Are unpopular. But there is one form of trust against which no one has anything to say. That is the trust which the public reposes in Hood's Sarsaparilla, and the best of it is the trust is fully justified by the merit of the medicine. For, remember, Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures.

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable, and do not purge, pain or gripe. Sold by all druggists.

HOW ZEB VANCE FIXED IT.

A FUNNY SCENE AT THE NATION'S CAPITAL.

The newspapers have told the story of how United States Senator Zeb Vance recently introduced to President Cleveland at one time, two applicants for appointment to the City of Kanagawa, (pronounced Kan-a-gow-ah.) Japan, but did not tell the story in full. Col. Jas. G. Martin, of Asheville, was with Senator Vance, when the introductions were given, and recently detailed the incident to the Asheville Citizen:

Col. Martin while seated in the Senate restaurant last week met a Dr. Harrell, from the State of Washington, who wishes the appointment for which the Colonel is applying. The Doctor, having come from Washington, had no Democratic friends who sought the President in behalf of their constituents, consequently he was in a quandary. The Colonel proposed that, as the Doctor had no one to introduce him, he should go with Senator Vance and Col. Martin. The proposition was eagerly accepted, and the trio went Groverwards on their mission.

When they had reached the President's presence Senator Vance introduced Col. Martin in these words, or words nearly the same: "I want to present my friend and fellow townsman, Col. Jas. G. Martin, of Asheville, who wishes to go to Kanagawa as consul general. I can heartily endorse him for the position." Col. Martin bowed, shook the President's hand and stepped aside to allow Dr. Harrell's introduction. "And here is Dr. Harrell of the unenlightened State of Washington, a State where they do not know how to elect a Democrat." The President smiled. "And," continued the Senator, "he also wishes to go to Kanagawa."

This was a little too much for the President. He did not see how two applicants for one place could call on the President together. He looked puzzled, noting which Senator Vance said, "It is rather funny, isn't it? I feel very much as did the man who was giving an illustrated lecture on scenes from the Bible, and, showing a picture of Daniel in the lion's den, was asked by a boy in the audience, 'Which is Daniel and which is the lion? You pay your money and you take your choice.'"

A number of politicians from everywhere were standing near and heard the whole thing, and a hearty laugh followed the Senator's unique introduction. Dr. Harrell took advantage of this and, regardless of the fact that he was there by Col. Martin's courtesy, began talking to the President, in an endeavor to make a case for himself. There was one reason, he said why he should be appointed. That was, he had lived in Japan, and spoke the language of the Japs. The President evidently saw that the Doctor was overstepping the bounds of propriety and turned to Col. Martin with the remark: "And I suppose, Colonel, you would like to go there in order to learn the language of the people?"

The Colonel replied that he knew nothing about the language, but suggested that, as the Doctor was acquainted with it, he might be sent along as interpreter when he (the Colonel) went as consul general.

Everybody laughed and felt satisfied except the Doctor. The story got out and before the Colonel left Washington he says, the question "Hello, Jim, do you speak Jap?" had become so common as to be a nuisance.

The Colonel says if any man can get a better endorsement for the place than he has, that man will be welcome to the appointment, and he added, "If I don't get it I'll be sure the man who does get it will get it because he is a better man."

Be the kind of man that you would like to have your boys become.

ENOUGH seed can be bought for five cents to produce 1000 cabbage plants.

If you get mad go to the looking glass and watch yourself grow, and see how quick you will quit it.

COLUMBIAN LIBERTY BELL.

MRS. CLEVELAND WILL START THE MOLTEN METAL BY ELECTRICITY.

Mrs. Grover Cleveland sent an autograph letter on Saturday to Miss Mary Desha, vice-chairman of the Columbian Liberty Bell Committee, accepting an invitation to release the melted material from the furnace in the mould, casting the Columbian Liberty Bell, by touching an electric button in the White House connected by a direct wire with the furnace at Troy, N. Y. Contributions are coming in from every portion of the globe.

Robert Lincoln Minister to England promises a link from the chain his father wore at the time of his assassination; Mrs. Schuyler Hamilton, Jr., will give mementoes of Alexander Hamilton and Gen Schuyler. The lock from Jefferson's gun has been received. Mrs. Gov. Prince of New Mexico, gave a copper kettle made by Indians long before the discovery of America and a piece of native silver. Idaho promises silver from every mine in the State. Thousands of such specimens will be melted into the bell, which will ring at sunrise and sunset on the anniversaries of the great events in the history of the world.

Mrs. Pembroke Jones, of Wilmington, will be the representative of North Carolina on the occasion of the moulding of the bell at Troy.

ARE YOU LEFT-EYED.

There are but few ambidexters, either in the matter of feet, hands or eyes. It may sound rather queer, but it is fact, nevertheless, that ninety-five out of every one hundred human beings are right handed, left legged and left eyed.

Felix Hement, who knows more about eyes in a minute than half of the opticians and oculists of the country have been able to learn in a lifetime, remarked that it is an established fact that we all use one eye more than we do the other, which establishes as clear a case of "left and right eyedness as though the same terms were used to denote a preference in the use of hands and feet.

If you want to decide as to whether your friends or relatives are right or left eyed, give them a small telescope or spy-glass to look through or have them take "aim" with a gun. We all take great interest in ascertaining the color, size, shape and visual powers of our children's eyes, but how many of us stop to consider whether they are "right" or "left-eyed?" —N. Y. Mercury.

VOORHEE'S MAN BURKE.

THERE SEEMS TO BE A MISTAKE SOMEWHERE.

Springfield Republican.

No one who knows President Cleveland will take any stock in the story that he is using the public patronage to buy the favor of Chairman Voorhees of the Senate finance committee for the administration's financial and tariff politics. But it is none the less certain that in naming Voorhees' man Burke for United States district attorney for Indiana he has made a blunder which should not be allowed to stand. Not only do the independent and many of the Democratic papers of the State and the reform element denounce the appointment, but the labor organizations are passing resolutions stating that Burke "as a legislator proved to be a tool of the corporations," and that "we denounce said appointment as an insult to labor and acquit President Cleveland of intentional wrong in the matter believing he was grossly imposed on by Senator Voorhees and Congressman Jason B. Brown, and we express the hope that he will rectify the wrong by removing the appointee."

This comes from a mass meeting of Democrats and laboring men at Indianapolis. It is not the first time Voorhees has deceived Cleveland in such matters.

SEND all sick watches to GRADY'S ROLOGICAL SANITARIUM, Halifax, N. C.

A TOUGH GOOSE STORY.

BUT THE WESTERN WOMAN, WHO HAD ALSO SEEN QUEER THINGS, BELIEVED IT.

She was a Western woman and had been entertaining a room full of guest in an uptown hotel with some extraordinary tales.

She had just finished one particularly wild and woolly border romance, when a young Southerner present drawled:—"Madam, if any one else in the world had told that story I should have been compelled to doubt it, but, of course, I cannot refuse to believe you.

"Now," he continued, as if by way of retaliation, "you cannot fail to appreciate a most unusual occurrence in my State. The past winter, as you know, has been unusually severe in the South. Well, in November, when the wild geese were flying past us, a flock of them stopped to drink in one of our Carolina ponds.

"Being so much pleased with the water they loitered for a day or two. But one time while they were padding around a sudden cold wave swooped down without any warning. A crust of ice formed over the pond in less than a minute, and there were the geese stuck as fast as if they had been nailed to a board.

"For several days the geese—there must have been a thousand of them—fluttered and squawked trying to extricate themselves, but to no purpose. The people in the neighborhood watched their struggles with more or less curiosity, and finally a mountaineer and his wife ventured on the ice to capture some of the game.

"The geese made one tremendous effort in unison, and lifted the whole sheet of ice into the air, slowly flying away with it. Slowly the ice floe ascended until it became a mere speck in the sky and finally disappeared altogether. The neighbors are now watching every day when the weather moderates to see the old man and his wife drop from the clouds."

The Western woman looked up at the speaker and remarked:—"Well, that certainly does seem incredible, but I don't doubt it, for I've seen too many queer things myself."

AN AMUSING INCIDENT.

The Charlotte Observer relates the following:

An amusing incident occurred at Tryon street Baptist church Sunday night. Rev. Dr. Pritchard was preaching on "Sampson," and as he was coming in on the home stretch of a very able sermon, after rounding up several heads, he spoke of Sampson's faith. "And now," said the speaker, finishing up this head, "let us pray"—here he paused for a moment before going on to say, "for such faith," when, to his surprise, the congregation dropped on their knees in the pause, and fell to praying. The doctor taking in the situation, with his natural astuteness took the cue, and led the prayer, bringing his sermon to a close before he intended or expected to. The occurrence was so ludicrous a one that preacher as well as people could hardly repress their laughter until the final benediction. The doctor will be careful hereafter, not too make too long a pause when inviting his congregation to pray for any of the cardinal virtues.

Look at the size of the ordinary pill. Think of all the trouble and disturbance that it causes you. Wouldn't you welcome something easier to take, and easier in its ways, if at the same time it did you more good? That is the case with Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. They're the smallest in size, the mildest in action, but the most thorough and far reaching in results. They follow nature's methods, and they give help that lasts. Constipation, Indigestion, Bilious Attacks, Sick and Bilious Headaches, and all derangements of the liver, stomach and bowels, are promptly relieved and relieved and permanently cured.

"If we can't cure your catarrh, no matter how bad case or of how long standing, we'll pay you \$500 in cash." That is what is promised by the proprietors of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy. Doesn't it seem better than any words could, that this is a remedy that cures Catarrh? Costs only 50 cents.

STATE ITEMS.

THE NEWS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE IN A CONCISE FORM.

Henderson has a canning factory.

The potato bug has struck Durham.

Raleigh is to have another savings bank.

A Concord man has named his son "Grover Adlai."

A \$40,000 cotton factory will be built near Shelby, N. C.

Strawberries are selling in Wilmington at 20 cents a quart.

Mrs. T. P. Jerman, wife of Dr. Jerman, of Ridgeway, is dead.

Wilmington has a gold cure institute for the treatment of inebriates.

Henry Watterson did not lecture in Wilmington last week as announced.

The new opera house at Raleigh will be completed about the first of June.

W. R. Kindly has commenced the erection of a cotton factory at Mt. Pleasant.

The police of Reidsville are making raids on barkeepers who sell liquors on Sunday.

The Second Presbyterian church has established the brotherhood of Andrew and Phillip.

Over fifty fish weighing 100 pounds each were caught at Swepsonville in Haw river recently.

The hotels in the various watering places in the State are being fixed up for summer season.

There are now 300 notaries public in this State, as appears from the list in the executive office.

There were 1,819 North Carolina Confederate soldiers buried in Hollywood cemetery, Richmond.

New Hanover county has just completed her new court house. It is said to be a beautiful building.

All the girls that were hurt at Raleigh in the switchback disaster, will recover, says the Raleigh papers.

The contract has been awarded for the extension of the Eastern hospital for the colored insane at Goldsboro.

Will Wynne, the well known bicyclist and ball player of Raleigh, will play with the Washington, D. C. club this season.

Governor Carr was greatly pleased with the delightful hospitality shown him and the other North Carolinians at Richmond.

In a few days the Postal Telegraph Company will have an office in Durham. It will extend its lines to Greensboro and Winston.

Governor Carr has issued a requisition on the Governor of Texas for Charles Williamson, who is wanted in this State for murder.

Rev. Dr. B. F. Dixon, President of the Greensboro Female College, has tendered his resignation to take effect in June next. Rev. Dr. F. I. Reid, of the Raleigh Christian Advocate will succeed him.

Col. John D. Whitford is contributing a valuable addition to our war history by writing up an account of the attempted recapture of New Bern by the Confederates during the latter part of the war between the States. Col. Whitford is a graphic writer, and his reminiscence will be very interesting.

There is a "haunted" house on Second street, about which blood curdling stories are told—of mysterious noises at all hours of the night, of crockery thrown around promiscuously and furniture overturned of the apparition of a woman which glides noiselessly through the rooms, and of other uncanny happenings that so disturbed the family living in the house that they have been forced to leave it.—Wilmington Star.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Rose Tobacco Cure!

WHAT IT IS DOING.

I received Tablet about six days ago and commenced using according to directions, and can say now that I am cured of the habit of chewing and smoking, contracted about thirty-seven years ago. What are your terms to agents? I want two counties, Cleveland, Miss. E. C. Hopkins.

I have used the Rose Tobacco Cure with happy results.

Please give me all the particulars in regard to agency, for one or more counties.

Yours respectfully, Valdosta, Ga. W. D. Braswell.

I sent you a month ago for a Tablet of Rose Tobacco Cure. It broke me of the habit after using tobacco for fifty-seven or fifty-eight years. Yours, Travelers Rest, Ala. J. C. Powell.

I purchased a Tablet of Rose Cure some two weeks since and it has cured me. Please let me know if you will let an agent have as much territory as a State. Tibbee station, Miss. J. H. Kyland.

Rev. Mr. Oulland, of this city, has used your Rose Tobacco Cure and he says it has cured him of the habit of tobacco using. I have been chewing and smoking for 45 years and yet am determined to quit. Please find enclosed \$1.00. Send me a Tablet. Jacksonville, Fla. Yours, W. E. Hatter.

Sometime ago I ordered from you a box of the Snuff Cure for myself. It gave perfect satisfaction and completely cured me of the Snuff habit in a few days. I would like to secure the agency for this section. Summit, Ala. Mrs. Carry Haden.

AN OLD CASE.—All that want to quit the use of tobacco, use the Rose Tobacco Cure. I am a free man after using it 55 years. Give terms to agents. Yours, Valley Head, Ala. R. S. Price.

I write this to say to you that the Rose Tobacco Cure is a wonderful stuff. I have used tobacco in all shapes for 45 years, and after using one Tablet all desire is gone. I used two Tablets to be sure of a cure, but one did the work. Dr. R. M. Tucker.

PRICE PER TABLET, TOBACCO CURE, \$1.00
BOX, SNUFF CURE, 1.00

ORDER OF

BRAZEL & CO.,

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.,

General Agents for the UNITED STATES.

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Save Paying Doctors' Bills

J. B. B. BOTANIC BLOOD BALM

THE GREAT REMEDY

FOR ALL BLOOD AND SKIN DISEASES

It has been thoroughly tested by eminent physicians and the result is a permanent cure for all such ailments. It is a sure and reliable remedy for all such ailments. It is a sure and reliable remedy for all such ailments.

SCURF, ECZEMA, SCALD HEAD, RINGWORM, PIMPLES, ERUPTIONS, ITCHING, SORE THROAT, BRUISES, SWELLINGS, AND ALL SKIN AFFECTIONS. It is a sure and reliable remedy for all such ailments.

SENT FREE. BOOK OF 1000 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. BLOOD BALM CO., Atlanta, Ga.

July 28 1y.

NOTICE.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

HALIFAX COUNTY.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT.

Issue Foote, plaintiff

against

Annie Foote, Defendant.

This is an action for divorce a vinculo matrimonie upon the grounds of adultery on the part of the defendant and it appearing that the defendant is a non-resident and cannot after due diligence be found in this State. This is therefore to command the said defendant to appear at the next term of the Superior court of said county to be held at the court house in the town of Halifax, North Carolina, on the 10th Monday after the 1st Monday in March 1893, and answer or demur to the complaint or the relief asked for will be granted and a decree against said defendant made.

Given under my hand and official seal at my office on this the 21st day of March 1893.

JOHN T. GREGORY,

Clerk Superior Court Halifax county.

Tom W. Hawkins, attorney.

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