THE DEMOCRAT.

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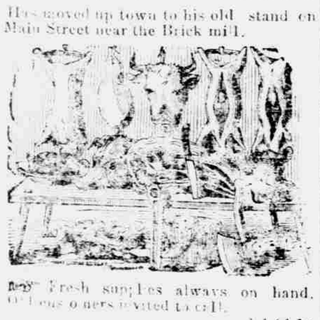

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How My Boy Went Down.

(Gold Leaf).

[We publish the following sad and o'er true refrain with the hope that it may be the means of warning to some bright, promising boy or an affectual appeal to those who place temptation in the way:]

It was not on the field of battle,
It was not with a ship at sea,
But a fate far worse than either,
That stole him away from me.
'Twas the death in the ruby wine cup
That the reason and senses drown;
He drank the alluring poison,
And thus my boy went down.

Down from the heights of manhood
To the depths of disgrace and sin;
Down to a worthless being,
From the hope of what might have been
For the brand of a beast besotted,
He bartered his manhood's crown;
Through the gate of a sinful pleasure
My poor, weak boy went down.

'Tis only the same old story,
That mothers so often tell
With accents of infinite sadness,
Like the tones of a funeral bell.
But I neve once thought when I heard it,
I should learn all its meanings myself;
I thought he'd be true to his mother;
I thought he'd be true to himself.

But alas for my hopes all delusion!
Alas for his youthful pride!
Alas! Who are safe when danger
Is open on every side?
O can nothing destroy this great evil?
No bar in their pathway be thrown,
To save from the terrible maelstrom
The thousands of boys going down?

—*Lillie Sheldon.*

CHARLOTTE TO COME.

(Charlotte Chronicle.)

In forming the country around Charlotte it seems that nature, from the beginning, intended that Charlotte should always be the Queen city and be able at all times to assert and maintain her independence.

Not only little things—the things that in all times and places make men and cities—but great resources, even beyond any estimation, have been placed in easy access.

But the one of these resources, and probably the greatest single one is now in a great scheme that will ere long materialize, and our industrial progress be given an impetus that will know no check this side the falling of the curtain on the nineteenth century.

Men, money, brains! That is what is back of it, and in them Charlotte can hope for the end to be brought about.

Up where the beautiful Catawba river winds its way around the hills between Iredell and Catawba, and Mecklenburg and Lincoln counties it makes a great bend, and each little ripple is chased by another over its pebbly bed on its downward course to the sea. This bend has considerable fall and is known as the Horse-Shoe Bend. It is about eleven miles around, but at its closest points the river banks come within two miles of themselves.

The object now is to cut a channel through at this point and give two miles the benefit of nine miles fall. The cost of this canal would not be very great. The old river would then have enough power to turn the machinery of New England.

Her swift current would be harnessed and the hum of machinery would begin with every mad rush the water made toward the wheel. A great wire would be attached to a dynamo and Charlotte would have electricity so cheap that it would be more of a bonanza than natural gas. Charlotte's light would be made and her street cars and factories run by this natural power.

Not only that, but industries would spring up all along the line. All a manufacturer would have to do would be to erect his plant and attach his wire to the main line, and begin operations. The industrial hum of the Merrimac would be made the hum of the Catawba, and Charlotte and Mecklenburg would be made the Eden of manufacture.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simlar vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for perparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper W. A. NOYES' 820 *Powers' Block* Rochester, N. Y. 3-91-1y

Needing a tonic, or children that want building up, should take
BROWN'S IRON BITTERS.
It is pleasant to take, cures Malaria, Indigestion, and Biliousness. All druggists keep it.

A WINDER.

CHARLES F. MORSE.

A FAMOUS LONG DISTANCE PEDESTRIAN OF JACKSON, MICHIGAN.

Charles F. Morse, of Jackson, Mich., long distance pedestrian, is 24 years of age, stands 5 feet 8 inches, and in condition weighs 150 pounds. He began distance running in Jackson, in 1889, where he took fifth place in a 72 hour race, and since then he has taken part in most of the races run in Michigan. The following are his best races:

First, in a 27-hour race, score 137 miles; first, in a 16-hour race, eight hours a day, score 102 miles; first, in a 30-hour race, four hours a day and ten hours on Saturday, 191 miles; second, in a 60-hour race, ten hours a day, 302 miles; first, in a 24 hour race, four hours a night, 179 miles; second, in a 30 hour race, four hours a day and ten on Saturday, 197 miles. He has also taken part in one-half, one, and two mile races and made good records.

History of the Umbrella.

ITS EXACT ORIGIN IS UNKNOWN, BUT IT IS VERY ANCIENT.

(Irish Times.)

No one knows whether the umbrella was originally used as a defense against rain or as a screen from the sun, but it seems probable that the first umbrellas were sunshades. In countries where very little clothing is worn rain does not make much difference, but the sun is a power. Why should't the palm leaf be the first sunshade, with its ribs and handles to order? It hints at the umbrella as well as the fan.

Travelers among the Ainos of Japan often make temporary sunshades of gigantic dock leaves, which are sometimes six feet high, large enough for an account of Gulliver. The umbrella has a very great antiquity. The word itself means a "little shadow," showing that it was named for its protection from the sun in this case. Horace says:

"Among the military standards the sun beholds an Egyptian canopy."

On coins and in the rock carvings of the ancients the umbrella often shows its familiar form. This goes to prove that Jonas Hanway did not invent the umbrella, but he saw the value of the eastern sunshade, and soon it became the fashion to carry this article of apparel. There must be a great difference between the umbrella of the eighteenth century and the modern steel-ribbed, silk-covered slender article which it is regarded as a misfortune to get wet.

The desideratum at present is a portable umbrella. There is a fortune for a man who invents a really good umbrella which can be stowed in a valise or trunk. There is an unpatented Corean umbrella that may fill the bill. When it begins to rain the picturesque and stately Corean swell reaches into his sleeve and produces a folder, oiled-paper affair resembling a fan. This is spread and set over the hat like an extinguisher, and is kept in place by two strings held under the chin. It is not very large, but anything that will cover a Corean hat will keep the rain from a Corean.

My wife has used Braycrotine for headache with the best imaginable results. I state this without solicitation. J. W. Mashburn, Abbeville, Ga.

English Spavin Liniment removes all Hard, Soft or Calloused Lumps and Blemishes from horses. Blood Spavin, Curbs, Splints, Sweeney, Ring-bone, Stifles, Sprains, and Swollen Throats, Coughs, Etc. Save $50 by use of one bottle. Warranted the most wonderful Blemish Cure ever known. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Druggists, Scotland Neck, N. C. 10 1 1y.

TABLE MANNERS.

(Selected.)

In taking your place at the table, try to take an easy position. Sit neither too close nor too far away from the table; without lolling, leaning back, drumming or any other uncouth action. Unfold your napkin and lay in your lap. Eat soup with your spoon, holding a piece of bread in your left hand, and break off a morsel—do not bite it. Cut your food with your knife, but use your fork to convey it to the mouth under no circumstances, permitting an exception to this rule. If the fork can be stuck into each piece of food, it may be gracefully used with the left hand—otherwise cut everything into small pieces, and take the fork in the right hand. I have seen persons eating rice, or similar articles, holding the fork on the left; it is preferable to substituting the knife on the right, but the effect is bad.

Drink from the cup, not the saucer; if your tea or coffee is too hot wait until it cools. Eggs should be eaten from the shells, (dipping off a a little of the larger end). The egg cup is to hold the shell, not its contents.

When you send your plate away from the table, remove the knife and fork and allow them to rest upon a piece of bread. When you have finished the course, lay your knife and fork on your plate parrallel to each other, the handles towards the right hand. Eat moderately and slowly. Do not seem to be in a hurry to commence, nor is it necessary to wait until all have been served before you commence.

Remember that bread is the only food which the customs of well-bred people permit to be laid upon their table cloth. It is perfectly proper for you to "take the last piece" if you want it, the presumption is that there is more in reserve.

The table is the place above all others where pleasant words and social chat should be introduced avoiding arguments or the consideration of abstruse principles.

Never tilt the plate when you are eating soup, never eat from the end of the spoon but from the side—avoiding all noise. Always eat with the lips closed.

Never hold a wine glass by the bowl, but by the stem, never drain your glass. Never drink from a glass without first wiping your lips with a napkin, and also after drinking.

Never allow two kinds of pastry to be eaten from the same plate.

Never cut off bread into soup or gravy; it should be eaten by morsels, broken with the fingers—not broken off.

Never mix the food on the plate. Such an act indicates a coarse appetite, and a want of nice appreciation of flavors.

Never cut pastry with a knife, but always break and eat with a fork.

Never put salt upon the cloth, but lay it upon the side of your plate.

Never help yourself to butter or any other food from a common dish with your own knife or fork; it is exceedingly ill-bred to do so.

Things a Woman Can Do.

She can come to a conclusion without the slightest trouble of reasoning on it, and no sane man can do that.

Six of them can talk at once and get along first rate, and no two men can do that.

She can safely stick fifty pins in her dress while he is getting one under his thumb nail.

She is as cool as a cucumber in a half dozen tight dresses and skirts, while a man will sweat and fume and growl in one loose shirt.

She can talk as sweet as peaches and cream to the woman she hates, while two men would be pounding each other's heads before they had exchanged ten words.

She can throw a stone with a curve that would be a fortune to a baseball pitcher.

She can say "no" in such a low voice that it means "yes."

She can appreciate a kiss from her husband seventy five years after the marriage ceremony was performed.

She can walk half a night with a colicky baby in her arms without even once expressing the desire of murdering the infant.

She can do more in a minute than a man can do in an hour, and do it better.

She can drive a man crazy in twenty-four hours and then bring him to Paradise in two seconds by simply tickling him under the chin, and there does not live that mortal son of Adam's misery who can do it.

"HAYSEED."

SOLID CHUNKS OF HARD SENSE.

IT OUGHT TO BE STOPPED.

(Youth's Companion.)

There can be little doubt that a distaste for the farmers life is cultivated among country boys by the the caricatures of the farmer which are published in comic papers and "humorous" books, and by the fear of being classed among the people whom these caricaturists are pleased to call "hayseeds."

Boys are accustomed to see these "funny pictures," in which a sort of farmer who is extremely unusual, and may be said not to exist at all is set forth as the type or example of farmers in general. As boys are sometimes unreasoning, they are apt to say to themselves, "I will not be ridiculed in that way when I grow up; I will get out of the 'hayseed business.'"

In this way not only is an injustice done by these caricatures, but a positive injury.

The American people have a broad sense of humor, and no doubt delight in caricature; but they do not delight in injustice of misrepresenting, when they are able to recognize it as such.

For this reason, it may be hoped that the caricaturing of the farmer, which has certainly been greatly overdone, may soon cease from the distaste for it which is pretty sure to arise.

The farmer himself can afford to take the "hayseed" ridicule good-naturedly. At a recent farmers' demonstration in the West, men rode in a procession dressed in cowhide boots, patched trousers, and ragged straw hats, carrying pitchforks on their shoulders. They had adopted the guise which the caricature gives them a way of showing that they are independent of that sort of ridicule.

But in the case of the young this spirit of independence is not often so strong. With a little thought, they must see that an unjust caricature does not really affect the credit afford honor of their occupation; but they are often ambitious of what is called consideration or respectability, are likely to be unconsciously affected by misrepresenting pictures and stories.

It is the duty of the young to bear it in mind that nothing is more respectable or dignified than the life of the independent farmer, and the duty of those who have it in their power to "raise a laugh" in the public prints to remember that they no less than serious writers, have a responsibility to truth and justice.

Why Lobsters and Crabs Turn Red.

(Sun.)

"What makes lobsters and crabs turn red when they are boiled?" said the observant fishman, in reply to a question. "Well, strickly speaking, they don't. The lobster or the crab is just as red before it is put in hot water as it is afterward, only it is subdued by a mingling of blue in its make-up that gives it a grayish-blue appearance. The blue and red of a live lobster or crab are pigments in the shell. As long as they are there together the red becomes gray. But both of these pigments are not fast colors. The blue won't wash, but the red is there to stay. If it were possible to keep lobsters or crabs alive for any length of time in the sun, the blue would fade out as quickly as the same color does out of a cheap flannel suit and the shells would be a vivid red as if they had been boiled. It is not an uncommon thing to catch live lobsters and crabs, more frequently the latter, that are entirely, red. It has been determined, however, that this eradication of the blue pigment is the result of disease. Liver red crabs and lobsters are never put on the market. So the reason a crab or a lobster turns red, as the saying is, when it is boiled, is because the hot water instantly washes the fugitive blue coloring matter out of the shell and leaves only the the fast red. It does not take long boiling to change the color. If you were to rescue a lobster from its hot bath two seconds after it is submerged you would find it as red as if it had been boiled for an hour."

FROM WASHINGTON CITY

(Regular correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28, 1891.

Senator Sherman has written a letter that is far from taking the rosy view of the republican prospects in Ohio that is prevalent, in the republican press. It was written to a republican departmental official, and was intended to be personally shown by the receiver to every republican from Ohio that is employed by the Government. In it the Senator says that he regards it as imperatively necessary that every republican voter of the state of Ohio, now temporarily in Washington, shall at once return to the state in order to help brace up the weak-kneed members of the party who are showing a disposition either to vote against their old party or to stay at home. In consequence of this letter it is said that the department officials have intimated that all Ohio voters employed therein may take thirty days leave with pay whether their annual leave has all been used up or not. Evidently Senator Sherman isn't figuring on any fifty thousand majority.

Speaking of Ohio, it is creditable to the prominent republicans now in Washington, that they, to a man, condemn the recent attempt by certain members of their party in Ohio to make Governor Campbell's private business transactions the basis of an attack upon him.

Representative Mills' opponents for the Speakership have, some of them, tried to make it appear in his recent speeches in Ohio he took a different position on the free coinage of silver from that which he had for a long time previously occupied. This is an attack upon the rugged honesty of Mr. Mills that his friends resent. One of them said: "Mr. Mills' Ohio speeches do not announce any change whatever in his views touching free coinage. He opens his speeches with the distinct statement that he is now and ever has been a free coinage man. What he does say, however, and with great emphasis, is that free coinage will not produce the far reaching effect that its warmest advocates hope for, it will not relieve the distress under which the country is alleged to be suffering. Tariff, Mr. Mills says can only be accomplished by lighter taxation and a freer foreign trade. Now so far from this being a new pronunciamento of Mr. Mills', it's just what he said in an address delivered before the legislature of Texas—a free coinage body—only the Texas statement was, if anything a more earnest appeal than that contained in his Ohio speeches against relying on relief from free coinage. When it is remembered that Mr. Mills' ambition is to be elected to the Senate by the legislature of Texas, it can easily be seen that the bold stand he took before that body, which was composed of men the most of whom will have a vote on the question of his selection as Senator, was just like the man, and that his Ohio speeches are only in the same line."

It is Now said that it is a neck and a neck for the democratic vacancy on the Interstate Commerce Commission between Representative Culberston of Texas ex-Representive Clements, of Georgia. The latter gentlemen wasthought to have been ahead until a delegation of Washington negroes filed a protest against his appointment, because they mixed him up with his colleague. Mr. Grimes, who a year or so ago left a Washington hotel at which he was boarding because a negro was seated at the same table at which he was eating his dinner. They thought it was Mr. Clements, and told Mr. Harrison that they would consider it an insult to the negro race if he was appointed. Under ordinary circumstances this would amount to nothing but just now "nigger" influence is mighty strong at the White House.

Attorney-General Miller, if rumor be true, is again to be made the victim of Indiana politicians being compelled to give up the seat upon Federal bench which Mr. Harrison had promised him in order that another Indiana republican—John M. Butler, once the law partner of the late ex Senator McDonald—may be provided for. This is hard lines for Mr. Miller who has ever since Mr. Harrison became President had his mouth puckered up preparatory to taking a life time suck at the public teat. As a patient waiter he is a success.

ICELAND.

A LAND WHERE ANCIENT METHODS STILL PREVAIL

QUAINT CUSTOMS AND DRESS OF THE PEOPLE.

(London Queen.)

Iceland is far behind civilization. It is a peep into the past to find living people grinding corn with the same kind of huge stones as in the ancient world; weaving their own clothing and linen in hand looms, and churning butter in the tall old-fashioned churns worked by pulling a rod up and down by hand. Money is of little value, barter remains the chief means for the exchange of goods.

There is no telegraphic communication with the island, and during the six months of the year it is icebound the Icelanders are entirely cut off from the outside world. They are so left to indoor occupations during the winter's darkness that education reaches a high standard. Every one in the island can read and write, and many of the peasants understand another language besides their own, although many well-known works have been translated into Icelandic.

Coffee can always be procured, and fish is always to be had near the coast. Skyr can be found everywhere—skyr is the Icelandic national dish. It is made from sheep's milk which has gone sour, curded in fact, and is eaten with sugar. It is really not at all bad, very nutritious, and does one no harm. The milk is collected in huge tubs during the time the sheep are in full milk, and there it remains, often for months, before it is used, indeed, what is made in the autumn lasts till the following spring.

From May to September there is no night in Iceland, and the midnight sun is visible during July and August. Eternal daylight sounds charming; but trying to sleep in the light of day is not so charming in practice. The want of night, of the moon, of stars, makes the constant light very monotonous and trying; but nothing to what an equal length of darkness must be to the poor natives. An enterprising Glasgow merchant wished to show the Icelanders the advantage of electric light as a means of cheering their long winter's darkness. He sent forth a proclamation, inviting the natives to come on board his steam yacht at Reikjavik, and behold for themselves the scientific wonder. It was August; the night never came, and the wonderful display was totally ineffectual!

The Icelanders are stolid, hard-working people, silent, slow in their ways, not too closely, but thoroughly honest in all their dealings. Icelandic women are good looking, at least the younger ones are; but like every other country where women work hard they soon get old. Their costumes are very pretty, and the cap quaint. The Hufa are finely knitted black silk skull caps, quite small, from which hang a tassel of black silk from six to ten inches long, which passes at the top through a silver tube, often prettily engraved. The men are short, broad, thickly set, and with their furs and saffron-colored comforters surmounted by shaggy red heads and beards, have a very quaint appearance. Men, women and children all wear skin shoes made from the seal, cut out and sewn together to the shape of the foot and pointed at the toe. They are tied on by strings of gut. They all wear double thumbed gloves. These gloves have no fingers but are made like a navy's glove, only with a thumb on each side instead of only one. When the palm wears out, the Icelander simply reverses the gloves and makes use of the other thumb. The natives always wear gloves, whether rowing, riding, fishing, washing or sewing.

Men always kiss when they meet, but I only once saw a man kiss a woman. Up country every one shakes hands or takes off his cap to anyone they meet on the lonely path and wishes them God speed on their way. They are polite, but they rarely smile. "Box and Cox" was once played in Reikjavik, and the natives laughed so heartily they felt the effects weeks afterwards.

Everyone who visits Iceland must be prepared to ride. There is not a vehicle in the island and there is not a road, excepting for a mile or two out of Reikjavik, on the way to the Geysers.