A MOUNTAIN VIGNETTE.

Evenin' shadows growin' long an' a-gettin' gray,
Shades o' night a-comin' on snuffin' out the day,
Birds a-chirpin' through their good-nights from the sheltering trees,
Devil bats a slidin' round on the evenin' breeze,
Owl a-hootin' on the crags, askin' who is who,
Rattlesnakes a bunchin' up like the letter Q,
Wolves a-comin' from their dens with a sneaky tread,
Skies a blushin' at the sun, as it goes to bed.

Comes a lazy, sleepy hush over all the hills,
Broken only by the cries of the whippoor-wills,
Stars too faint to make a shine peepin' from the skies,
Like a lot of wakin' kids, battin' sleepy eyes,
Butterflies all hid away in the climbin' vines,
Breezes singin' lullabies through the needled pines,
Then the hunter lies an' blinks at the world o'er-head
Thinkin' there's no couch on earth like his blanket bed.

—James Barton Adams.

Soft Coal For Domestic Use.

From the Scientific American.

In view of the fact that although autumn is upon us, the strike in the anthracite coal region is still in force, the householder is confronted with the problem as to whether he will pay ten or twelve dollars a ton for anthracite coal, or find some substitute for use in the cooking range and the heating furnace. The inconvenience caused by the coal strike was felt by all classes of the community, but it is upon the people of moderate means and upon the poor that the burden will fall with greatest weight; for to them the price of anthracite coal will be positively prohibitive.

At the same time it is possible to overestimate the difficulty of the situation; for although anthracite is the ideal fuel for cooking and heating purposes, it is not by any means the only one available. This has been proved by the enormous demand for gas stoves which has occurred during the past few weeks; and those householders who make a practice of substituting gas stoves for coal ranges during the summer months will undoubtedly continue to use gas as long as the present high prices for coal continue. Indeed, there are many who prefer to use this fuel throughout the whole year, claiming that it compares favorably in cost for cooking purposes with anthracite coal. Another substitute that is available is the coal-oil stove, which has been perfected to a point at which has been perfected to a point at which it may be used both for cooking and heating at a cost which is considerably less than that of anthracite coal or gas; while careful attention to the question of combustion has enabled the makers to put upon the market oil stoves which will do their work without producing unpleasant odors in the house.

Wood is, of course, too expensive a fuel, at least in the large cities, to be suggested as an alternative, even at the prevailing high price of anthracite; nor are the grates of the ordinary kitchen stove, or basement heater, altogether suited to the use of wood, although it could be burned in them at the cost of close attention. In such houses as have open fireplaces wood fuel can, of course, be used to great advantage, and in localities where wood fuel can be delivered at a reasonable figure, there is certain to be a marked increase in the sales of cord-wood. Indeed, we think that those farmers and owners of wood land that are advantageously placed as regards transportation, would find it to their interest to make arrangements for the delivery of cord-wood in the nearest towns and cities during the coming winter months.

Although electricity has been applied with a measure of success to the work of heating and cooking, it is not likely that there will be an appreciable increase in its use for these purposes, the cost being too high for the limited means of the average householder.

Although the fuels that we have mentioned will be used to a greater or less extent, it is to soft or bituminous coal that the public will have to turn during the winter months as the cheapest and most satisfactory substitute for anthracite. After careful inquiry among the coal dealers and general coal interests, we are satisfied that when the public begins to buy soft coal, as it will have to do before very long the dealers will be able to supply all that is needed at a cost not to exceed, even in the suburbs, $5 or $6 a ton. We are assured by one of the largest dealers that there is no doubt that, even if the strike should continue for several months longer, it would be possible for householders to obtain an abundance of bituminous coal at the price named and probably for something less. Nor is there any quality in soft coal which renders it unfit for domestic use. Indeed, as a matter of fact, practically no other fuel is used, for domestic purposes, in Great Britian, and while the cooking ranges differ somewhat in design from those used in this country for anthracite coal, it will be quite possible for the householder, by using a little judgement, to burn soft coal to advantage in the ordinary American cooking stove. The most important fact to remember is that the great quantities of gas thrown off when soft coal is first ignited render it necessary to supply considerably more air above the bed of fuel than is the case with anthracite coal. Thus, in replenishing the kitchen stove, it will not do to fill the grate entirely full of fresh fuel, since this would result in the rapid lowering of the oven temperature, which would not be restored until the mass had become ignited and the gases had been somewhat burned off. It will be found that the best method is to feed small quantities of fuel to the fire at frequent intervals, keeping the lower drafts closed more than they would be in burning anthracite coal, and keeping the upper draft constantly open. For use in the heating furnace, soft coal will be found to give good results when once the proper manipulation of the furnace has been learned. It should be understood at the outset that more constant attention will be necessary, for the reason that soft coal burns more quickly and will not remain incandescent for so long a time as anthracite coal. During the daytime the attendant will have no difficulty in keeping a steady fire if he is careful to feed the furnace frequently; to keep the bottom drafts but slightly open; and to give a liberal feed of air through the air inlet in the furnace door. Owing to the rapidity of combustion of bitumious coal it will not be possible to bank up the furnace for the night and leave it with a certainty that there will be a live fire remaining in the morning; but this difficulty can be overcome if a ton of anthracite is laid in with the winter's supply of soft coal, and the anthracite used only for banking up the fire over night. A ton of anthracite used for this purpose should suffice to tide the household over the period of high prices.

There is one feature connected with the use of soft coal, however, which unless it be carefully safe-guarded, may introduce an element of danger. We refer to the heavy deposit of soot, which, unless it is swept out at stated intervals, will accumulate, and being inflammable would be liable to ignite and produce a fierce fire in the chimney, with a consequent risk to the dwelling. It sometimes happens that the ends of rafters or beams are, by careless or ignorant construction allowed to project into the chimney flues. These might become ignited and carry fire to the interior of the house. There is further danger that the shower of sparks from a burning chimney would ignite the shingle roof of the surburban cottage. These risks may be obviated by sweeping the chimney, say once in two months. The "chimney sweep" is an important personage in the old countries, and it would be a curious incidental development of the strike if he should make his appearance, even temporarily, in this country.

Human Life is Lengthening and Widening Out.

The assertion has been made again and again within recent years that the average length of human life is on the increase. Many men and women, however, have been slow to accept the statement. They have held on to the proverb that every generation grows wiser but weaker, as if it were a part of an infallible revelation. But now comes the assurance, in the form of the census report, issued last week, that the span of life, in America at least, is lengthening at a comforting rate. The average age of the entire population in 1890 was twenty-one and nine-tenths years, but in 1900 it was twenty-two and eight-tenths years. We are living longer than our forefathers did.

But this is not all. Life is not only lengthening out, but widening out. Not only is it likely that we shall live longer than our fathers, but we live a freer, fuller, broader life than they did. In our opportunities, in our comforts, in our varied experiences, life is now far richer than it was a generation ago. Our ancestors were on the sea coming to America three or four months; now the same sea is crossed in less than a week. One may now go to and from Philadelphia to New York in two hours, and with all the comforts of a palace. A hundred years ago the same journey was made on horseback, or in lumbering coaches, and consumed three days. Letters now pass from friends in one State to friends in another over night; whilst our grandparents wrote not at all, or at long intervals, and only on imporant affairs. Over the telephone we talk familiarly with friends in distant towns; and every morning the affairs which concerned distant nations yesterday are systematically set before us in the press. The fruits of every land are brought to our doors, and the music and poetry, the philosophy and science of all the earth is at hand for us and for our children. With all these aids our opportunities are increased, and by the devices which the thought of man has devised our time and strength are multiplied that the average man can accomplish more than the most industrious and most resourceful among our ancestors.

Then, too, we get more out of life in every way. Our American homes have more comforts than could be found in the houses of princes a century ago. We are better clothed and better fed. We are better protected against disease, and better guarded against violence. We see more, read more, enjoy more, and do more. Life is fuller, richer, more enjoyable, and worth more in every way now than at any previous time in the world's history.

Nor is the reason for this lengthening and broadening of the measure of human life hard to find. It may all be summed up in the greater knowledge of the laws of life and obedience to them. Medical science has done much for us. Sanitary conditions of life have helped. The comforts of life and variety of food have done their share. Men have been searching after the laws of nature about us, and have been studying the same laws in our own person, and have been preaching obedience to them. Nature has been explored, and the God-ordained sovereignty of man over all its power and riches has been asserted and extended. Men have knocked at the doors of the treasure houses filled by nature's large-hearted God, and these doors have swung wide open. They have asked questions of nature and have received an answer; they have sought great treasures and have found them.

◆

Noah was one of the earliest advertisers. He advertised that he would sail on a certain day. Those who did not believe in advertising failed to get tickets and were left out in the wet without umbrellas or bathing suits. As most of them could not swim they took to the trees and became monkeys. The origin of the monkey is now settled.

◆

"But you are taking considerable risk in letting your young men owe two or three weeks' board."

"Yes, there is some risk," answered the boarding house keeper. "But then, you see, they worry over it so that they lose their appetites, so I save money in the long run."

◆

Little Tommy when told that he was growing fast, answered:—

"Yes, too fast; I think they water me too much. Why, I have to take a bath every morning!"

◆

The first 13-cent stamp ever issued by the United States will shortly be put on sale. It will contain a portrait of Benj. Harrison.

◆

"Might I ask who lives here?"
"Certainly, sir."
"Who is it, sir?"
"Blest if I know."

◆

The heart is always hungry. No man lives happily alone. The wisest and the best is wiser and better for the friends he has.

◆

"Is your husband a good provider?" asked the sympathetic visitor. "Indeed he is, mum. He got me three new places to wash this week."

◆

Teacher—"Where do sponges come from?"

Bright Pupil—"From the noble families of Europe."

◆

"Say, mamma, how much am I worth?"

"You are worth a million of dollars to me, my son."

"Say, mamma, could'nt you advance me twenty-five cents?"

◆

"What's the matter with Jimson?"

"Doctor says it's a complication. Played ping pong, golf, bicycled and got hit by a motor car, and the four kinds of faces were too much for him."

◆

An exchange would like to see the statistics showing annually how many people are killed because they cannot wait a minute.

HEALTH INSURANCE

The man who insures his life is wise for his family.

The man who insures his health is wise both for his family and himself.

You may insure health by guarding it. It is worth guarding.

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PRICE 1 CENT.

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Ladies' 15c Cotton Vests at	11c.	50c Hoods and Fascinators at	39c.
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Ladies' 75c Wool Pants at	59c.	25c Infants' Sacks at	19c.
Infants' 25c Wrappers at	19c.	10c Infants' Bootees at	7c.
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I guarantee all goods fresh and to be as represented or money refunded. We handle a full line of

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CANNED GOODS AND DRIED FRUITS of all kinds. I also carry a large line of FRENCH AND AMERICAN CONFECTIONERY, which I sell at bottom prices.

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A Waterman Fountain Pen, if properly taken care of, will last a generation, a fine selection of which I have on hand.

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E. OLIVER GRIMES, JR.
Westminster, Md. December 21st, 1899.

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Surgeon Dentist,

WESTMINSTER, Md.

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CONNECTING WITH

P. & R. R. at Shippensburg and Gettysbur Norfolk & Western R. R. a [illegible] B. & O. Railroad at Hagerstown an Cherry Run; Penna. R. R. at Br e ville, and P. W. & B., N. C. an B. & P. Railroads at Unio Station, Baltimore, M

MAIN LINE AND CONNECTION

Taking effect June 22nd, 1902

TRAINS WEST.

LEAVE	1.	11.	15.	23.	26	53.	55.
	AM *	AM. †	AM. †	PM †	PM †	AM. ‡	P ‡
New York Philadelphia							
Washington							
Baltimore	4.30	8.11	10.12	4.01	6.15	9.45	2 3
Arlington		8.36	10.39	4.23	6 45	10 00	2.59
Mt. Hope		8.39	10.42	4.27	6.48	10.03	3 02
Pikesville		8.46	10.49	4.34	6.57	10.10	3. 9
Owings Mills		9.00	11.02	4 47	7.10	10.21	21
Glyndon	5.10	9.12	11.14	4.58	7.24	10.33	3 34
Emory Grove		9.13	11.15		7.25	10.34	3.35
Finksburg		9 22	11.25	5.11	7.35	10.46	3 47
Carrollton		9.36	11.38	5.25	7.54	10 59	4.00
Westminster	5.38	9.53	11.53	5.42	8.13	11.15	4. 7
Avondale		9.59	12.00	5.49	8 20	11.23	4.15
New Windsor	5.50	10.09	12.10	6.02	8.31	11.34	4.29
Linwood		10.15	12.16	6.07	8.37	11.40	4.45
Union Bridge	5.57	10.19	12.20	6.12	8.42	11.45	4.50
Middleburg		10.25	P M.	6.18	P M	AM.	P M.
Bruceville	6.03	10.27		6.22			
D. P. Creek		10.31		6.25			
Rocky Ridge		10.38		6.31			
Thurmont	6.21	10.51		6.46			
Edgemont	7.03	11.38		7.32			
Waynesboro	†7.25	11.58		7.52			
Chambersb'g	†8 00	12.35		8.30			
Shippensburg	†8.27	1.02		8.57			
Hagerstown	7.30	12.05		8.02			
Williamsport							
	A M.	P M.		P M.			

TRAINS EAST.

LEAVE	22.	4.	8.	12.	18.	52.	54.
	PM. *	AM. †	AM. †	PM. †	PM. †	AM ‡	P M. ‡
Williamsport Hagerstown	4.10		7.02		2.10		
Shippensburg	†2.50		5.55		1.10		
Chamb'rsburg	†3.25		6.31		1.45		
Waynesboro	†4.05		7.05		2.16		
Edgemont	4.35		7.36		2.38		
Thurmont	5.21		8.16		3.21		
Rocky Ridge	5.28		8.26		3.31		
D. P. Creek			8.33		3.38		
Bruceville	5.38		8.37		3.44		
Middleburg			8.39		3.47		
Union Bridge	5.45	6.40	8.46	12.55	3.54	6.11	4 17
Linwood		6.43	8.49	12.59	3.59	6.17	4.22
New Windsor	5.53	6.48	8.54	1.04	4.05	6.24	4.28
Avondale		6.57		1.14	4.17	6 37	4.38
Westminster	6 07	7.02	9.11	1.20	4.27	6.46	4.46
Carrollton		7.15	9.25	1.34	4.42	7.03	5.01
Finksburg		7.23	9.34	1.44	4.54	7 18	5 13
Emory Grove		7.32		1.52	5.02	7.28	5.22
Glyndon	6	7.40	9.43	1.53	5.03	7.33	5.23
Owings Mills		7.53	9 52	2.04	5.16	7 46	5.36
Pikesville		8.04	10.00	2.14	5 30	7 57	5.47
Mt. Hope	‡6.58	8.11	10.05	2.19	5 37	8.04	5.54
Arlington		8.14		2.22	5 40	8.08	5.57
Baltimore	7.18	8.39	10.27	2.42	6 05	8.33	6.23
Washington							
Philadelphia New York							
	PM.	AM.	AM.	PM.	PM	AM	P M

*Daily. †Daily, except Sunday. ‡Sunday.

BLUE MOUNTAIN EXPRESS (Parlor Car)—Leaves Baltimore, daily, except Sunday, 3.22 p. m., stopping at Westminster, New Windsor, Union Bridge, Bruceville, (connections for Frederick) Thurmont, Blue Ridge, Buena Vista Spring, Blue Mountain, Edgemont, Smithsburg, Hagerstown. Returning, leave Hagerstown 6.40 a. m., daily except Sunday. Arrive Baltimore 9.31 a. m.

Additional train leaves Baltimore for Union Bridge and Intermediate Stations at 5.00 p. m., and leaves Union Bridge for Baltimore and Intermediate Stations at 5.10 a. m., daily, except Sunday.

Passengers for and from Cherry Run, Williamsport, P. V. and intermediate points from and for stations east of Hagerstown change at Hagerstown.

EMMITSBURG R. R. Trains East will leave Emmitsburg daily, except Sundays, at 7.10 and 10.00 A. M. and 2.50 and 4.50 P. M., arriving Rocky Ridge at 7.40 and 10.30 A. M. and 3.20 and 5 20 P. M. Trains west will leave Rocky Ridge, daily, except Sundays, at 8.26 and 10.38 A. M. and 3.31 and 6.31 P. M., arriving at Emmitsburg 8.55 and 11.08 A. M. and 4.00 and 7.01 P. M.

FREDERICK DIVISION PENNSYLVANIA R. R., (Daily ex. Sunday.)—Trains for Frederick leave Bruceville at 8.38 A. M. and 9.36 and 10.40 A. M. and 5.00 and 6.30 P. M. Trains for Taneytown, Littlestown and Columbia leave Bruceville 9.47 A. M., and at 3.45 P. M.

Through Trains for Hanover and Gettysburg and points on Baltimore and Harrisburg Division leave Baltimore daily, except Sunday, at 7.25 A. M. and 3.32 P. M. Through cars for Gettysburg and intermediate points leave Baltimore also daily, except Sunday, at 10.12 A. M.

BALTIMORE & CUMBERLAND VALLEY BRANCH.—Trains leave Hagerstown for Shippensburg and intermediate Stations at 6.25, 11.07 a. m. and 7.00 p. m. Leave Shippensburg for Hagerstown and Intermediate Stations at 5.55 a. m., and 1 10 and 2.50 p. m.

FOR CHAMBERSBURG VIA ALTENWALD CUT-OFF.—Leave Hagerstown for Chambersburg and Intermediate Stations at 3.17 p. m. Leave Chambersburg for Hagerstown and Intermediate Stations at 7.43 p. m.

J. M. HOOD, General Manag
B. H. GRISWOLD, Gen'l. Passenger Ag't.

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Surgeon Dentist.,

Crown and Bridge Work, Plate Work, Filling Teeth, and Teeth extracted without pain.

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