NOW AND THEN

BEFORE THE RAIN
By Thomas Baily Aldrich
(1836-1907)

We knew it would rain, for all the morn
A spirit on slender ropes of mist
Was lowering its golden buckets down
Into the evapory amethyst
Of marshes and swamps and dismal fens,
Scooping the dew that law in the flowers,
Dipping the jewels out of the sea,
To sprinkle them over the land in showers.
We knew it would rain, for the poplars showed
The white of their leaves, the amber grain
Shrunk in the wind—and the lightning now
Is tangled in tremulous skeins of rain.

Spring is here, The Gaude Flora, with their pink and white petals, true harbingers of Spring, are in bloom while everywhere the forsythia and jonquils are painting the landscape in gold. She has lovely joyous music to hail her coming for from every tree and bush the birds are singing, And this miracle comes to us every year, for we have God's own promise that "while the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest cold and heat summer and winter, day and night shall not cease."

Columbia, Tennesee is having a mule sale. They think much of mules in Tennesee, and will not allow them to be auctioned.

This sale takes place before the spring plantings begin.

There was an old mule in Chestertown some years ago. He was a good worker, but a strict timest. When the twelve o'clock whistle blew old Jerry would begin ot bray, and no power on earth could make him work after that, until he had had his dinner. Old Jerry is dead now, and gone to the mule heavn, but the memory of his faithful service is still alive.

In an old Church in Wales among the curios found there, is a pair of dog tongs. These tongs were used in the old days for seizing fighting dogs and throwing them out of the Church.

In the past it was a common thing for Welsh sheep dogs to follow their masters to church and curl up in the pew, sleeping through the service.

Then suddenly the animals would wake up and a fight would start.

Many people from Kent have gone to Baltimore this week to see Katherine Hepburn in Jane Eyre. Miss Hepburn has many relatives here, who are interested in her success.

There has been much speculation as to what person Charlotte Bronte thought of in portraying her hero, Mr. Rochester. Some thought it might be Mr. Thackery, to whom she dedicated her book, but the character of Mr. Rochester was totally unlike that of the lovable Thackery. Charlotte's life was a sad one, a clergyman's daughter, who early in life lost her mother, and she with her gifted sisters had to live in her father's parish on a dreary wind swept moor very seldom being thrown with the outside world. It was only after the death of her sisters, that she met and loved her father's curate, and had two happy years of married life, before she died.

It is seldom that there is found as much talent, as was found in the three Bronte sisters, Emily's book, Wuthering Heights is considered her best, and Anne also won laurels in authorship. Their brother too, was very talented, but he fell into evil ways and consequently was a constant grief and mortification to his sisters.

While Katherine Hepburn was playing Jane Eyre in the Legitimate Drama, hundreds in the same city, were also going to see her, in the Movie, Quality Street, a very winsome play, by James Barrie.

China is suffering from another famine, owing to drouths in various sections of that country. Many of the wealthier people are buying up the food stuff and storing their barn with them. Because the starving peasants are trying to break the storehouse open, the owners of the food have to have a cordon of guards around.

GALENA

Miss Sara Powell, and friend, Miss Mary Dicus, of Baltimore, Md., were week end guests of the formers parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Powell, near town.

Mr. Joseph Murray, of Philadelphia, Pa., was a week-end guest of Mr. and Mrs. John Naylor.

Mrs. Mary Harrington, Mr. and Mrs. James Harrington and daughter, Deloris, of Wilmington, Del., were week end guests of the formers parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Wood.

Mr. James D. Davis, Jr., Mrs. Helen Spry, Mrs. Linda Walls, spent several days in Salisbury, Md., and attended the Annual M. E. Conference.

Mr. Irving Beaston, of Norfolk, Va., is spending the next ten days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Beaston.

Mrs. Julia Dale who had been making her home with Mrs. James D. Davis, Jr., has accepted a position at the "Welfare Home," in Smyrna, Del.

Mrs. Herchel Callaway and son, Kenneth, of Chestertown, Md., spent last Wednesday with her mother, Mrs. W. L. Starr.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Newnam and family, of Pedericktown, N. J., spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Newnam, of near town.

Mr. William LeCates, Sr., has been confined to his home with grippe, is now able to be back to his duties.

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. VanSant, are visiting their son-in-law, and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Mitchell in Waynesboro, Pa.

Our community has been saddened by the death of Mr James Skinner, who passed away at his home last Thursday after a long illness. Mr. Skinner had been a resident of this town for the pass twenty years, and he will be greatly missed.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Scott and children Jacquline, and Jack, of Chevy Chase, Md., were Sunday guests of her aunt, Mrs. William Boyd.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jefferies, of Wilmington, Del., were Sunday visitors at the home of Mrs. Linda Walls.

Capt. Donald Driscoll, returned to the home last Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Van Dyke, after spending the winter employed in Miami, Florida, and later on he and his family will go north for the summer months.

Mrs. Julian Cochran, spent several days this week with friends in Baltimore, Md.

News was received this week that Mr. and Mrs. Victor Stevens, of Baltimore, will soon make their home in Chicago, Ill., where Mr. Stevens has accepted a position, Mrs. Stevens is the daughter, of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Jarman.

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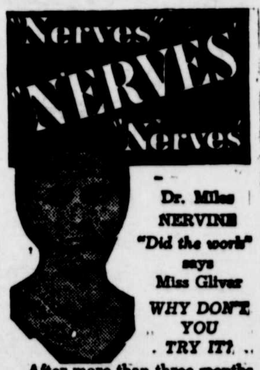
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BY
GEORGE A. HANSON

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