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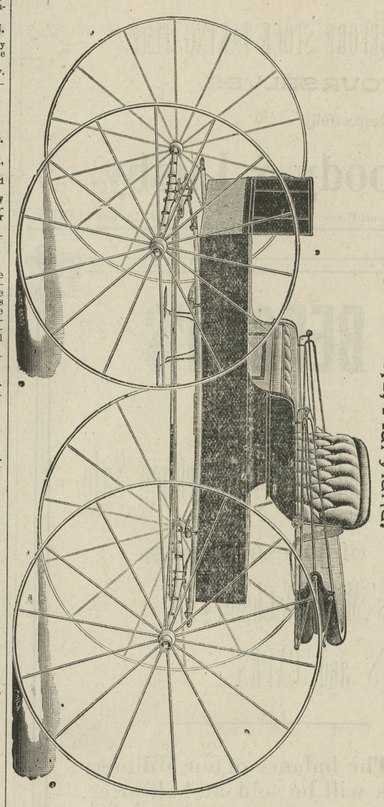

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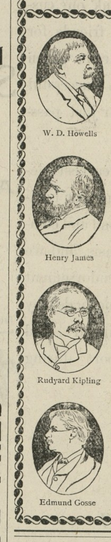

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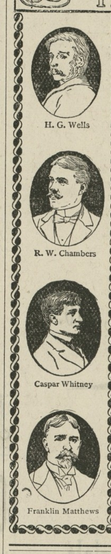

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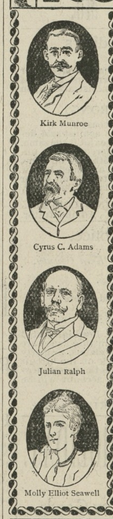

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We believe in so treating customers that they will not only feel grateful to us but will send others to us about the Shoe question.

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A SERIOUS PROBLEM.

THE COMPASS AND THE GROWING USE OF ELECTRICITY.

A Danger That the Magnetic Needle May Be Rendered Practically Useless to the Mariner and the Surveyor—A Curious Discovery.

Although the invention and introduction of the trolley system of street railways have been of inestimable value to civilization it has incidentally wrought some harm here and there. Emphasis was laid on one of these drawbacks to electric traction in the address delivered by Professor A. W. Rucker at a recent meeting of the British Association For the Advancement of Science.

In various parts of the world observatories have been established for the purpose of keeping track of the changes in the direction in which the magnetic needle points. It was long ago discovered not only that the compass does not aim directly at the north pole, but that the amount of variation in its indications from true north undergoes slow alterations. Hence it is necessary to make fresh charts, showing the variation for different parts of the globe every few years. But in order to get the data for such corrections—of the highest importance to the surveyor and mariner—it is requisite that careful observations be made continuously at a number of widely separated points.

Two of the most famous and hitherto useful institutions of this class are situated in Washington, in the grounds of the naval observatory and in Toronto. The interference of the electric currents that run through the earth and the track of trolley lines which have been constructed near these observatories interfere so much with the behavior of the instruments of both places that the records now obtained are practically worthless. And the experts are greatly puzzled by the problem of escaping from this vexatious interruption of their work.

So delicate are the influences which the magnets in such an observatory are intended to investigate that they can be perceived only when the apparatus is most scrupulously guarded. The room in which they are mounted is underground. Visitors are never admitted except under unusual circumstances and are required to deposit their jackknives, keys and all other metallic objects about their persons before entering the apartment. The magnets, generally bars of steel not over six inches long, are poised above a scale that is graduated to the most minute fractions, and a telescope, on an adjacent pillar, is used to read the fluctuations, which are too small to be discernible by the unassisted eye. A tiny mirror, as big as a dime, catches a beam of light more slender than the lead in a pencil and reflects it away to a sheet of slowly moving photographic paper, on which a permanent record is made. The arrangement of the apparatus is such that the movement of the magnet is magnified many times in the record, in order to render the changes perceptible.

There are three sets of instruments on duty in such an observatory. One swings horizontally, like a mariner's compass. Another dips up and down. A third is designed to measure the intensity of the earth's magnetism, which is a separate thing from the direction in which it acts. And so sensitive are they that their readings are apt to be interfered with by exceedingly trivial causes. It is customary for the superintendent to inscribe on the scroll "Visitors admitted," whenever such a breach of the regulations is permitted, so that if any abnormal fluctuation is detected in the motion of the magnets a suspicion of its meaning will be excited in the mind of the scientist who afterward examines the photographic trace.

In spite of the delicacy of the apparatus, it may seem surprising to the lay mind that the passage of trolley currents at a distance of many rods from the observatory should be able to affect the instruments within. But they do, and it is impossible to separate in the record the variations produced by genuine changes in terrestrial magnetism from those which are caused by the trolley. Professor Rucker said a few days ago: "From all parts of the world we hear of observatories ruined or threatened by the invasion of the electrical engineer. Toronto and Washington have already succumbed, Potsdam, Parc St. Maur, Greenwich and Kew are besieged, and the issue largely depends upon whether these great national observatories can or cannot make good their defense."

Although the practical service to mankind which is rendered by institutions of this class is alone sufficient to justify their maintenance and to warrant alarm as to their future, there are other questions involved which possess profound interest for the philosopher. We know that the earth is a magnet, but as yet no one is able to say what makes it so. The fundamental secret of terrestrial magnetism has not been solved. Then, too, there are various changes in direction which mark the behavior of the needle that remain to be explained. What influence is it that makes the needle swing to and fro to a microscopic extent every day? Why is it that the diurnal swing is greater in years of sun spot abundance than at the minimum stage of solar activity? Why do the indications of the needle differ in summer from those of winter? What is the key to the mystery of the long period movement that makes it necessary to recbart the situation? What causes the convulsive behavior of the magnets for a few hours or days when there is a great outbreak of sun spots? And is there any relation between the weather and the fluctuations in the earth's magnetism? There are theories on these subjects, but no generally accepted doctrines, and the human mind is so constituted that it will not rest until further light is obtained.—New York Tribune.

A VALUABLE AIDE.

From the unobtrusive walks of life our country has been roused to martial strife and bloody war—not for the sake of self aggrandizement or acquisition of territory, but in behalf of the downtrodden. No nation ever took up arms in a nobler cause; none was ever influenced by more disinterested motives and none ever accomplished so much in so short a time. God's people should have a settled conviction that this is God's country. The oft repeated question, "Are we a Christian nation?" should be definitely answered. A people whose God is the Lord should be, must be, read and known as such.—Rev. Dr. H. R. Naylor, Methodist, Washington.

The Shakers of Mount Lebanon, a community of simple, honest, God-fearing men and women, have prepared the Shaker Digestive Cordial for many years, and it is always the same, simple, honest, curative medicine that has helped to make the Shakers the healthy, long-lived people that they are. The Shakers never have indigestion. This is partly owing to their simple mode of life, partly to the wonderful properties of Shaker Digestive Cordial. Indigestion is caused by the stomach glands not supplying enough digestive juice. Shaker Digestive Cordial supplies what's wanting. Shaker Digestive Cordial invigorates the stomach and all its glands so that after awhile they don't need help. As evidence of the honesty of Shaker Digestive Cordial, the formula is printed on every bottle. Sold by druggists, price 10 cents to $1.00 per bottle.

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Many Advantages if Properly Cared For In Winter.

The greatest yield is obtained from cows that calve in the fall, if proper care, feed and shelter are provided during the winter. The prices of butter fat and butter are higher during the winter and with cows fresh in the fall or early winter this higher price comes during the period of greatest yield.

A cow owned by the college gave the following yields of butter fat in pounds, by months, for ten months: 21.3, 31.9, 31.2, 30.5, 32.9, 29, 28.7, 28.8, 26.2 and 22.2. If this product had been sold to one of the leading Kansas creameries at the prices paid last year, and the cow had calved April 1, the returns would have been $44.80, while if she had calved Sept. 1 the same product would have brought $49.44—a difference of $4.64 for a single cow.

A cow that calves in the early fall while on grass is in the best condition to make a high yield when fresh. Good feed and care through the winter will maintain a good yield, and when the cow is turned to pasture in the early spring a fresh flow will be started that will considerably increase the year's yield.

A cow that calves in the spring has the best milk producing feed at a time when she will do well with any good ration. As the flow begins to slacken, the quality of the feed grows poorer and flies and heat help to cut it down still lower. In the fall, when the milk begins to drop rapidly on account of the time from calving, the cow goes from green pastures to dry feed—a change that tends to reduce the yield and dry up the flow entirely. Winter dairying avoids injury to flavor of butter from weeds in summer and fall pastures.

Cows, with fair surroundings, can be made more comfortable in winter than in summer, and with fall calving will be dry when heat, flies and drought are severest, and when butter prices are the lowest.

Winter dairying furnishes profitable employment for the farmer and his men at a season of the year when without it farm forces are either idle or work for low wages.

Another advantage of fall calving is that the calves can be raised at a season when there is time to give to them that careful attention which is so great a factor in calf raising by hand, when losses from heat, flies, diarrhea and sour milk can be avoided and when at weaning time the calves can go from milk to green pasture without a check in growth.—Bulletin Kansas Experiment Station.

Food For Dairy Cows.

Professor Henry of the Wisconsin experiment station, speaking of food for dairy cows, states that 100 pounds of the foods named contain the following amounts of digestible nutrients:

	Protein. Pounds.	Carbohydrates. Pounds.	Ether extract. Pounds.
Corn or cornmeal	7.9	66.7	4.3
Corn and cobmeal	4.4	60.0	2.9
Rye	9.9	67.6	1.1
Wheat bran	12.2	39.2	2.7
Oats	9.2	47.3	4.2
Potatoes	.9	16.3	.1

Timothy hay is not a satisfactory or economical cow food—better feed most of it to the horse if possible, reserving only three or four pounds daily per cow. Of the corn fodder (corn stover, I suppose, is here meant) feed all the cow will eat without waste. It is unfortunate that our correspondent has not some clover hay at hand, for the timothy hay and corn forage are both so much of the carbohydrate order that some roughage like clover hay would help out the ration materially. For the concentrates of the ration feed from 10 to 12 pounds of grain daily per cow. If no clover can be secured, give, say, six pounds of bran, two pounds of oats and four pounds of cornmeal. With clover hay the grain allowance can be cut off a couple of pounds daily, and it may be taken from the bran or the oats as desired. The corn is the cheapest feed in the list at the price quoted, but it will not do to feed very heavily with it, say, not over four or five pounds per day if there is no clover hay at command to furnish protein. If the butter continues soft with this ration, I know of no direct way of correcting it except by supplying some cottonseed meal, which is generally considered effective for this purpose.

Very Old Cows.

Has the cow, under domestication, ever lived beyond the age of about 35 years? asks the London Live Stock Journal. The writer recalls to memory three recorded instances of cows living to the ages exceeding 30 years. The first in order of time is mentioned in the "General View of the Agriculture of the County of Norfolk," written for the board of agriculture in the year 1804. The author states that he saw upon Mr. Money's farm at Rainham a Norfolk horned cow which was then undoubtedly 35 years old. She had not bred a calf for about ten years, and although "old to the eye," was in good condition and had no marks of age excepting stiffness in moving and a halting gait, as if her feet were sore. As she was one of the then remaining specimens of the old horned breed of that county, her horns, unless cast off the cores, must have been sufficiently large to show tokens of age by the annual rings, the first of which, in that not particularly early maturing breed, would have been shown at the age of about three years. But of this test we have no mention. Of course we should not expect, at that great age, all the rings to be perfectly distinct, and it would be interesting to learn whether they are still increased in number by one added each year to the very end of so long a life, which indeed may have continued for some time beyond 1804.

The Coming Year.

The new year can be likened unto a blankbook of 365 pages, which has been placed in our hands. What will the book contain at the end of the year? Some pages will be stained with tears. Some will be crumpled as if clutched in despair. Some will contain words of hate and anger, which will burn the page whereon they are written. Other pages will be filled with the record of "something accomplished, something done," which has "earned a night's repose." There will be the record of battles fought, and at the end of the year we can turn back and see when we have conquered, when we have lost. There will be written upon these pages in letters of gold an account of the self sacrifices, loves and faithful devotions.—Selected.

Rash.

"Why did the young doctor call it smallpox?"

"It was a rash guess."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Drying preparations simply develop dry catarrh; they dry up the secretions which adhere to the membrane and decompose, causing a far more serious trouble than the ordinary form of catarrh. Avoid all drying inhalants and use that which cleanses, soothes and heals. Ely's Cream Balm is such a remedy and will cure catarrh or a cold in the head easily and pleasantly. A trial size will be mailed for ten cents, large for 50 cents. Ely Brother 56 Warren Street, N. Y.

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DANGEROUS INVENTION.

Was Convenient For Some Things, but Had to Be Discarded.

"Somehow or other," said the young man of sad and thoughtful mien, "I got hold of one of those stamps. You know what they are, of course. They have a clock arrangement in them, and when you stamp a document the time, as well as any lettering there may be on the dial, is put on the paper. I don't know what induced me to take this one home, but I got it when they bought a new and improved one at the office, and home it went with me.

"'You can keep a tab on the cook and cooking,' I told my wife, but of course I didn't expect her to do anything of the sort. Still I explained the way it worked to her, and after dinner I did it all over again for the benefit of the children. The children wanted me to give it to them, but I wouldn't do it—not then. Afterward it was different. My wife wanted me to sell it, but I wouldn't do that either—not then. Afterward that was also different.

"I think it was four or five days after I brought that time stamp home that I went to the club one evening and was detained. You know how that is, of course. A man is apt to be detained at the club. He starts for it in the best and most virtuous humor possible. He is sure that he will not be out later than 10:30 or 11 o'clock, but he is detained. It is difficult to explain why one is detained sometimes, but he doesn't get there, just the same. Therefore he lies about it. If his wife happens to be in bed, it is easier to lie about the time of night than it is to answer questions.

"That's what I did. My wife woke up and asked what time it was.

"'Quarter to 12,' I said, making it as early as I dared, for I knew she often sat up until after 11.

"I heard something go click, but paid no particular attention to it until next morning. Then she showed me a piece of paper with the record of that infernal time stamp' on it. The hour registered was 3:15. She looked at me very reproachfully as she showed it to me, but she didn't say anything. It wasn't necessary that she should. I understood. I took it away next day. I don't want anything in the house that will register the time in the dark.—Chicago Post.

Pat's Puzzle.

In a jovial company each one asked a question. If it was answered, he paid a forfeit, or if he could not answer it himself he paid a forfeit. An Irishman's question was, "How does the little ground squirrel dig his hole without showing any earth about the entrance?"

When they had all given it up, Pat said, "Sure, do you see, he begins at the other end of the hole."

One of the company exclaimed, "But how does he get there?"

"Ah," said Pat, "that's your question! Can you answer it yourself?"—Nuggets.

Looked Suspicious.

"I'd like to know why it is," growled old Bullyun, "that I'm bothered almost to death by commercial agency reporters investigating my financial standing. I invariably pay cash and have never asked for credit."

"That's all very true," replied his friend, "but you seem to have overlooked the fact that your only daughter recently celebrated the eighteenth anniversary of her debut into the world."—Chicago News.

A Man's Impressions.

"Dorothy, I saw a beautiful gown in a shop window today."

"What was it, Julius?"

"Well, it was that zigzaggy kind of cloth, and it had those braided things across the front and down the back and some awful stylish pointed things on the skirt—I wish you would get one just like it."—Brooklyn Life.

Kinds of Jays.

"I'd like to know," said the business manager, "whether this fellow down in Reuben county is a pure jay or one of those smart ones."

"What about him?" asked the editor of the comic weekly.

"He has sent in a lot of chestnuts for a year's subscription."—Indianapolis Journal.

Educational.

Inquisitive Child (to nursemaid)—I say, Jane, what's the difference between English meat and Australian?

Jane—Why, o' course, Master Reggie, English mutton's made o' sheep and Orsetralian of 'orse.—Punch.

He Didn't Die.

"My darling, what would you do if I died?"

"Oh! I think I should go into mourning for you, Frank, dear. Black isn't unbecoming to me."—Pick Me Up.

No Chance About It.

Parson Jackson—Am yo' suah yo' didn't acquiah dat tuhkey in a game ob chance?

Mose Mokeby—Dead suah, pahson! I used mah own dice.—Town Topics.

Now That All the World Cycles.

Distinguished Foreigner—It must be ver-ry har-rd for ze poor fellows!

Intelligent Warder — 'Ard! Why, bless yer, sir, it's a bit of wheelin practice for 'em. They fairly love it. When their time's up, these 'ere chaps'll be breakin all the road records.—Nuggets.

Hears It All Without Expense.

"You ought to have one of those phonographs in your home, sir. It will repeat everything"—

"I tell you I don't need one. My wife belongs to a sewing society."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Money Wasted.

Hayrick—Green's boy Bill hez entered a school uv pharmacy in ther city.

Hedgerow—Green's a fool! I never seed a book farmer yet thet 'mounted to shucks.—New York Journal.

Muddled.

"The deaf mutes," said the muddled one, "talk a great deal with their fingers, but yet I have to see one talk with his fingers through his hat."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Solus Cum Sola.

Hingso—He's a queer fellow.

Jingso—You bet! He told me yesterday that he didn't like solitude unless he had a girl with him.—Syracuse Herald.

To the Public.

We are authorized to guarantee every bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and if not satisfactory to refund the money to the purchaser. There is no better medicine made for la grippe