GREAT

HARVEST SALE.

We advertised the last few weeks

500 LIGHT SUITS FOR $7.95

that sold from $10 to $14.

We have about 40 left.

Take Your Choice Now For $6.50

to close them out.

This is the Greatest Bargain ever offered.

SLIPPERS.

Choice of balance of our stock of $1.00, $1.25 and $1.50 grades of Ladies' and Misses' Slippers, to close out, for 79 Cents.

Lot of 50 CENT

Unlaundried Shirts

to close out, for 29 Cents.

Call early as these things will go fast.

FRED D. MILLER,

OPPOSITE R. R. DEPOT.

mar-7-1v

Westminster Shoe Co.

Westminster Shoe Co. offers great bargains in

SHOES, HATS, CAPS, VALISES, TRUNKS AND UMBRELLAS.

We Have a Full and Compete Stock

We have a full line of

LADIES' SLIPPERS,

hand and machine made, and ranging in prices to suit everybody.

Our Hat Department

is full of the latest and best styles.

We have also a full line of

STRAW GOODS

and can beat the county on low prices.

Don't fail to give us a call, as we mean to do business if prices and good goods will do it.

WESTMINSTER SHOE CO.
E. C. LYNCH, Manager.
Oppo. Catholic Church, - Westminster, Md.
dec-6-1y

OUR PRICES

Are Always the Lowest.

Bargains during the Hot Weather.

Hot weather bargains in

Groceries, Sugar, Syrup, &c.

Endless Stock of Queensware

Lot of odds and ends in our GLASSWARE stock wich will be sold less than cost.

A complete line of

CONFECTIONERY

always, and fresh from the factory.

TEA, COFFEE, SPICES, &C.

Drugs ∴ and ∴ Patent ∴ Medicines

always at wholesale prices. Call and buy some bargains.

FRANK Z. MILLER,
Albaugh Building,
Opposite 1st National Bank,
mar-7-1y Westminster, Md.

THE best Axes, Hatchets and Hand Saws at BABYLON & GILBERT'S

AMERICAN SENTINEL.

VOL. 59 NO. 39. WESTMINSTER, MD., SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 3, 1891. ESTABLISHED 1833.

Notice of the Registrars of Voters.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Officers of Registration of Voters for their respective districts in Carroll county, will sit for their respective September and October sittings in their respective election districts, at the places and during the hours below named:

1st. For the purpose of ascertaining and registering the persons qualified to vote at the next ensuing election in the election districts and each of the election precincts of which they are respectively Officers of Registration, for three successive days in September, beginning on the

3RD MONDAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1891,

which will be the 21st day of September, and four successive days in October, beginning on the

1ST MONDAY IN OCTOBER, 1891,

which will be the 5th day of October, respectively.

2d. For the purpose of revision and for the hearing of applications for reinstatement by persons whose names shall have been stricken off their respective registries of voters, on the Monday next succeeding the second Monday of October, 1891.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 1, CALLED TANEYTOWN DISTRICT,

J. Sylvester Fink, the Officer of Registration, will sit from 8 o'clock, a. m., until 8 o'clock, p. m., at the tin store of P. J. Fink, on Frederick street, in Taneytown.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 2, CALLED UNIONTOWN DISTRICT,

Harry Weaver, Officer of Registration, will sit from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m., at the residence of the Registrar, on the main street in Uniontown.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 3, CALLED MYERS' DISTRICT,

Jacob P. Hull, Officer of Registration, will sit from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m., at his office in Silver Run.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 4, CALLED WOOLERY'S DISTRICT,

John H. Taylor, Officer of Registration, will sit all days in September from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p.m. at the home of the Registrar, on the county road leading from Patapsco, on the W. M. R. R., to the Baltimore and Reisterstown turnpike. On October 5th at Harry C. Allgire's, Mechanicsville. On October 6th, 7th and 8th at Jabez A. Bush's store, at Sandyville. On October 19th at the residence of the Registrar.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 5, CALLED FREEDOM DISTRICT,

Wade H. D. Warfield, officer of Registration, will sit from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m., at the Office of the Registrar, in Sykesville, on the Main street.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 6, CALLED MANCHESTER DISTRICT,

George Shower, Officer of Registration, will sit on the third Monday in September, being the 21st day of September, at Jacob Bischer's store, at Alesia; on all other days of the said September and October sittings will sit at the residence of the Registrar, on the main street, in Manchester, from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 7, CALLED WESTMINSTER DISTRICT,

Wm. L. Corbin, Officer of Registration, will sit in the first precinct in the room adjoining Huber's Drug Store, on the 21st and 23rd days of September, 1891, and on the 5th and 6th days of October, 1891, and on all other days of said September and October sittings he will sit at the Montour House, No. 61 W. Main street, Westminster, from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 8, CALLED HAMPSTEAD DISTRICT,

James W. Hann, Officer of Registration, will sit for his September and October sittings, 1891, at Elisha Snyder's store, on the main street, in Hampstead, from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 9, CALLED FRANKLIN DISTRICT,

Lewis C. Franklin, Officer of Registration, will sit for his September and October sittings as follows: September 21 and 23 at his residence in Franklinville; on September 22 and October 6th at Winfield, and October 5th, 7th, 8th and 19th at his residence in Franklinville, 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 10, CALLED MIDDLEBURG DISTRICT,

George W. Shank, Officer of Registration, will sit for his September and October sittings all days at Stephen C. Chipley's store, from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 11, CALLED NEW WINDSOR DISTRICT,

William D. Lovell, Officer of Registration, will sit for his September and October sittings all days at the residence of the Registrar, Main street, New Windsor, from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 12 CALLED UNION BRIDGE DISTRICT,

Theodore A. Clay, Officer of Registration, will sit for his September and October sittings 1891, at his place of business on Main street, in Union Bridge, from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m.

IN ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 13, CALLED MT. AIRY DISTRICT,

Oscar M. Spurrier, Officer of Registration, will sit on the 21st day of September, and the 5th day of October, 1891, at Anderson's store, on the main street in Mt. Airy; on all other days of his September and October sittings will sit at the residence of the Registrar, on the Harrisonville road, near the Westminster and Mt. Airy road, about three miles from Mt. Airy, from 8 o'clock, a. m., to 8 o'clock, p. m.

J. SYLVESTER FINK,
Officer of Registration for District No. 1.
HARRY WEAVER,
Officer of Registration for District No. 2.
JACOB P. HULL,
Officer of Registration for District No. 3.
JOHN H. TAYLOR,
Officer of Registration for District No. 4.
WADE H. D. WARFIELD,
Officer of Registration for District No. 5.
GEORGE SHOWER,
Officer of Registration for District No. 6.
WILLIAM L. CORBIN.
Officer of Registration for District No. 7.
JAMES W. HANN,
Officer of Registration for District No. 8.
LEWIS C. FRANKLIN,
Officer of Registration for District No. 9.
GEORGE W. SHANK,
Officer of Registration for District No. 10.
WILLIAM D. LOVELL,
Officer of Registration for District No. 11.
THEO. A. CLAY,
Officer of Registration for District No. 12.
OSCAR M. SPURRIER,
Officer of Registration for District No. 13.
D. N. HENNING, Counsel for Registrars.
aug-29-5t

New Windsor College,
Windsor Female College,
Windsor Business College.

Full courses in each College, with diplomas and degrees. Also thorough Preparatory Schools. Reasonable charges. Opens Sept. 16th. Address
REV. A. M. JELLY, D. D., President.
1y24-2m New Windsor, Md.

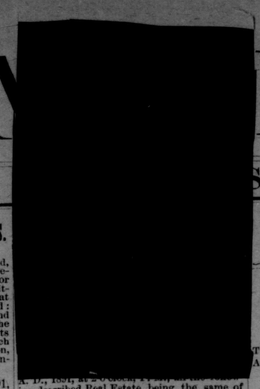
WANTED!

Wood Land along the Western Maryland Railroad, within ten miles of Westminster. A fair price will be paid for same. Highest cash price paid for wood at all times, at my yard.
GEO. W. ALBAUGH,
At Jos. W. Smith's Lumber Yard,
se-12-3t Westminster, Md.

Caution Notice.

My daughter, Ada M. Houck, a minor, has left my home and protection, without my consent. I therefore forewarn all persons from harboring or trusting her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting.
J. NICHOLAS HOUCK,
se-12-3t* Near Patapsco, Md.

MILK TAGS printed in all colors at this office.



Private, or Public Sale.

The subscriber offers at Private sale, his property lying in the centre of Uniontown, Carroll county, Md., consisting of a large lot of ground, improved with a Frame Weatherboarded Dwelling House, 36 feet front by 26 feet deep, containing 8 rooms, kitchen and hall, and summer kitchen; good stable for 3 horses, two buggy sheds, wood shed, log house and necessary outbuildings. All the buildings are in good repair, and there is a never failing well of good water, with pump on back porch of dwelling. The lot contains an abundance of good fruit, apples, peaches, pears, &c. If not sold at private sale before

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, 1891,

it will be offered at public sale at 1 o'clock, P. M., on that day.

Terms easy. For particulars address or call on
CHAS. E. SLONAKER,
au15-ts 572 Wilson street, Baltimore.

Public Sale.

The subscriber will sell at Public Sale, on the premises, his property in Hampstead containing ½ of an acre, with two-story ten room Dwelling House, two-story Coach Shop, containing paint, wheelright and blacksmith shops. All the buildings are in excellent condition. The dwelling and shops will be sold separately. This is a splendid business stand. Terms will be made to suit purchasers.

The sale will be on

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, 1891.
at 1 o'clock P. M.
se-19-ts* WM. C. RIDGLEY.

NO. 2902 EQUITY.

In the Circuit Court for Carroll County.
Nicholas W. Steele, vs. Emily Frances Davis et al.

ORDERED this 18th day of September, A. D., 1891, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported by Nicholas W. Steele, Pinkney L. Davis and Abram England, trustees, be ratified and confirmed unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 20th day of October, 1891; provided a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper printed in Carroll county, Md., once in each of three successive weeks before the 12th day of October next.

The report states the amount of sales to be $26,514.52.

BENJ. F. CROUSE, Clerk.
True Copy—Test:
se-19-3t BENJ. F. CROUSE, CLERK.

PAPER MILL FOR SALE.

THE First-class Paper Mill, known as the "IVY MILL," situated in Carroll county, Md. This property is in GOOD ORDER, and will be sold VERY CHEAP and on VERY EASY TERMS. For further information apply to
JOHN A. DUSHANE,
44 S. Charles Street, Baltimore, Md
au-24-6m

FOR SALE CHEAP.

The congregation of St. Paul's Reformed Church of Westminster having decided to heat their church by steam the Consitory will sell the old heaters at a reasonable price. They are suitable for use either as double or single heaters. Any persons desiring information about them can obtain it by calling upon either Mr. J. T. Orndorff, or Mr. O. D. Gilbert. aug-29-tf

Election Notice.

THE annual election for Seven Directors to manage the affairs of the Westminster Savings' Institution, for the ensuing year, will be held on Saturday, October 3rd, 1891, between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock, P. M.
E. O. GRIMES, President.
WM. H. STARR, Treasurer. sep-19-3t.

SEED WHEAT FOR SALE.

100 bushels Fultz and 50 bushels Roumania (bearded) Wheat. Both varieties are clean and of superior quality. Weight 63 lbs. per bushel; Price $1.15.

CHARLES W. MYERS,
sep-12-3t* Frizellburg, Md.

THE LEADING HOUSE in TOWN
IS AT
M. W. BABYLON'S.

Pure Wines and Liquors of all kinds.

Rum and Brandy for Mince Pies. A full line of Fruits, such as Seedless and other Raisins, Citron, Currants, Figs, Dates, Lemons, Oranges, Bananas. Spices of all kinds. Full line of

FRESH GROCERIES,

Syrups, and New Orleans Molasses. A fine line of

Plain and Fancy Candies,

Cakes and Crackers of all kinds. Canned Goods, Apple Butter, Jellies of all kinds, a fine line of

Lamps of Assorted Colors.

QUEENS AND GLASSWARE of various styles &c. ap-19-1y

Select Poetry.

Cloud and Sunshine.

Waiting in gloom and pain;
Weary, oh! so weary!
Steadily falls the rain,
Dark the day and dreary.
The bitterest winds are wailing loud,
And the funeral sky is clothed in cloud;
Will the sun ne'er shine again?

Courage! in heart and brain,
Though the day be dark'ning;
Waiting is not in vain,
If for God thou 'rt hark'ning.
The dreariest weather will change some day,
And never a cloud but will pass away,
And the sun must shine again.

Be still, sad heart, nor mind,
The heat of fiery-trying,
The mystery entwined
With sorrow and with crying.
The costliest gold, by a method slow,
Must lose its dross in the hottest glow,
But it cometh forth refined.
—[Captain R. K. Carter, in New York *Observer*.

Select Story.

MY GUARDIAN JIM.

"And see here, Nell, you must understand this: On the first symptom of your chronic wickedness breaking out I'll put George Hamilton on his guard."

"My chronic wickedness! What do you mean?"

"Miss Ingenue, coquetry may or may not be as harmless as any other feminine fad. It depends on the temperament of the man on whom it is tried. Harry Petrie, I suppose, rather enjoys it, and the other half-dozen lovers to whom you at present distribute your smiles with touching impartiality are used, I dare say, to flirting with a pretty girl, and will feel none the worse when the comedy is ended. With George Hamilton it might be different."

"Oh! you are apprehensive of your friend making love to me."

"Rather, I'm seriously apprehensive of you making love to my friend."

"Jim!"

"Not in words; you are too finished an artist to bungle after that fashion. Since you escaped from short dresses you have been a psychological study to me, and do you think I haven't tumbled to all your kittenish tricks? The studied intonation of the voice, the sudden drooping of the eye-lids because their lashes are long and silken, and that charming habit of blushing apropos de rien save that it becomes you. 'Pon my word, Miss Melrose, you are the only young woman I ever heard of who could blush to order, as some emotional actresses claim they can shed genuine tears on the stage when the exigencies of a part demand it. Now, if you were anatomically constructed on the lines of other human beings and had a heart I wouldn't mind Hamilton falling in love with you, for then he would be taking only the ordinary chances. So I give you fair warning, if I catch you at any of your old tricks I'll give you away without compunction." And with this threat my guardian abruptly left the room.

Yes, he was my guardian, this man of 34, and I had lived beneath his roof since my father's death ten years before. My poor father, he was the medical practitioner of our little town, and despite the disparity of their ages, between him and James Esmond a friendship almost fraternal existed for many years. Yet people thought it strange that the sensible Dr. Melrose should have left his little girl 8 years old to the guardianship of a man of 24. But in his quiet home with his mother, who had been indeed a mother also to me, an orphan child, my life had been a singularly happy one. For the first time in all these years I believe I was really angry with him this afternoon, and setting his threats and authority at defiance I was resolved to flirt to my heart's content with our coming guest. Mr. Hamilton arrived the following evening, and as my guardian introduced him I could not possibly mistake the meaning of his warning look.

"I trust, Hamilton," he said, "that Miss Melrose and you may learn to be excellent friends. During your brief holiday you will necessarily spend most of your time together, for the work on the farm leaves me little leisure to devote to even as old a friend as yourself. But Nell is a clever young person, who can make herself entertaining when she chooses to take the trouble."

Of course Mr. Hamilton's sense of gallantry compelled him to say that he felt quite sure the hours he spent in the society of the clever young person would be simply delightful, and I mentally recorded a vow that I would take the trouble to make them so.

"Well, what do you think of him?" was the question my guardian asked me when our guest had retired that night.

"Passable, I suppose, as men go."

"He is certainly handsome," he said, tentatively, "and the best fellow in the world, but a little oversensitive."

"He is sensitive, therefore he is vain. There was never yet a sensitive man who was not a vain one."

"Fudge!"

"But 'tain't fudge, sir, for sensitiveness, is, after all, only the offspring of self-consciousness."

"Say, youngster, did you evolve that bright idea from your own small brain? Don't let Hamilton think I have a literary nuisance beneath my roof. And now be off to bed."

Mr. Hamilton possessed, with a fair share of good looks, a more than average share of intelligence and education, and when a certain shyness or reserve, which seemed habitual, had worn away, I found him, indeed, an interesting companion. If I were writting a love story I might be tempted to linger over the days that followed, but as I am not I may be allowed to epitomize the events that rounded out these days in a sentence. Mr. Hamilton became the more ardent of my wooers, and Harry Petrie becomes absurdly jealous.

On the last evening of George Hamilton's visit he found me, as I anticipated he would, at a favorite haunt by the river side. His manner was strangely grave, and I found some difficulty in leading him into conversation, for the few remarks I at first addressed to him he answered in monosyllables. But soon he conquered this constraint of speech, and then—and then——

It was a Frenchman who said that "a clever man may love like a maniac, but never like a fool." George Hamilton made love like neither. He was cool and self-possessed and rational as he asked me to be his wife, but there was that genuine ring of sincerity in his voice which made it all the more painful to me to reject his proposal.

"If I dared dream, Helen, that time might reverse this verdict! It is said that a woman's 'No' is not always irrevocable, and trust me, I could wait in patience if only you left me one thread of hope to cling to."

"I can not cheat you with delusive hopes, Mr. Hamilton. A woman's love never was and never shall be her own to bestow; if it were there might be less unhappy marriages. But her heart goes from her keeping before she knows it."

"I think I understand you. You already love another."

"It is a strange confession for a girl to make. Will not you think so? But you have guessed right. I love, long have loved, another." And a moment later mother came to summon us to supper.

That night Harry Petrie called and found me in the sitting-room. He looked morose and miserable, poor boy, and his voice betrayed his irritation in the first words he spoke.

"Tain't often one has a chance of finding you alone, Helen. In fact, I expected to find you tete-a-tete with that other fellow."

"That other fellow! You mean Mr. Hamilton, I presume, Harry."

"Yes, I mean Mr. Hamilton. I don't know what encouragement you've given him, but any idiot could see he's half in love with you."

"Half in love with me! Only half! and yet he asked me to be his wife. Doubtless he thinks the other half would come after the honeymoon," I murmured, sweetly.

I shall not try to describe Harry Petrie's face as he heard my words, and in very pity for the boy I hastened to assure him that my answer had been a refusal. I am sure that he, the handsomest of my adorers, never felt so happy as he did at that moment, and as for myself, when alone, I found myself repeating, "Two proposals within two hours. It ain't every girl who can beat the record, as Jim would say."

I met my guardian at the orchard gate the following evening as he returned from the farm.

"I was on my way to meet you," I said, "for I want to talk with you."

"Well, what is it?" he asked curtly, as he paused at the gate on which his hand was resting.

"As my guardian I wished to ask you when I shall be legally of age."

"As if you didn't know that! But I think I guess your reason for asking. Now let us understand each other. If I am your guardian I am not necessarily your tyrant. You can marry to-morrow if it so please you without let or hindrance from me."

"Can, I indeed? Perhaps you have also chosen a husband for me."

"Would that not be 'love's labor lost,' since you have already made the choice yourself. Hamilton told me last night that you refused to marry him, and you supplemented that refusal with the uncalled-for confession that you already loved another."

"And what if I did?"

"Oh, nothing; but most girls would know how to make even a persistent lover take his conge without revealing her own secret. You wish to marry Harry Petrie, and you have my consent, if that is what you're after."

"He asked me to marry him last night, and——"

"And did I not say you have my consent?"

"Nobody asked for your consent," I answered hotly. "You wouldn't let me finish the sentence; but, of course you're anxious to get rid of me."

"Child you are unjust to me. You do not know what a dreary place this old home will be when you are gone from it forever. But the parting should come some day, and now, although I have sometimes found you a self-willed child, I am willing to give Harry Petrie a certificate to your good character."

"Thank you, but it won't be necessary. I mean to stay in this dear old home until—until you marry."

"And Harry Petrie?"

"I've refused him."

"After your confession that you loved him."

"But you mustn't believe that. A girl's subterfuge to dismiss an unwelcome lover. To let him down easy, don't you know."

He was looking searchingly in my eyes as he asked. "If not Harry Petrie, who is the man?"

"What a strange question, when you must remember I was anatomically constructed without a heart."

"You are not honest with me. I waive a guardian's right; but as your friend I ask you to tell me the truth."

"You are alike guardian and friend; but you are not the man to whom I would willingly confide that secret."

Even as I spoke my eyes fell beneath his gaze, but as his hand was laid caressingly on my head I looked defiantly into his face.

"Nell, when your father left you to my care, I did not think what I regarded as a sacred trust would only bring me a future of unhappiness."

"A sacred trust," I answered bitterly, "you are impatient to be relieved of. You want to drive me from your house, Jim. Well, I'm willing to go."

The hand that lightly rested on my head suddenly gripped my arm as he exclaimed: "Nell, Nell, if I had never been your guardian I might have been—pshaw! child, come into the house."

But for once I chose to be disobedient to my guardian, and my voice detained him. "That vain regret for the might have been I have always thought was a woman's special weakness. A man—I mean one worthy of the name—can change the might have been into the shall be—always."

"Bewitching temptress, do you know the words you would drag from my lips? If I had never been your guardian I might have been your lover. And can I change the might have been into it shall be? I love you, Nell, I love you. Words—words—words that, falling from my lips to-night, startle me with their madness. I've tried to crush a passion which I felt was folly, and I've failed. But since the words are spoken at last, will you not answer me truthfully, must I love in vain?"

It may have been in my eyes my guardian read my answer. In such a moment, as every girl knows, there is little need for words. And it was this man who had told me I was anatomically constructed without a heart; but a painfully pleasant sensation in the region of that organ, as he clasped me in his arms, convinced me of his error. And——

Well, of course I married my guardian, Jim.

The World's Volcanoes.

The number of volcanoes in the world is very much greater than is commonly supposed, there being altogether about 350. Australia has no known volcanoes, but in North America there are twenty, in Central America twenty-five, in South America thirty-seven, in Asia twenty-four, in Africa ten, making a total of 116 on the continents, the remainder being insular. As a rule, they are not isolated, but are found in systems. One great chain, comprising Vesuvius, Ætna, Stromboli, Vulcano and others, is found in the Mediterranean. Another extends down the West African coast. The two greatest systems form the eastern and western boundaries of the Pacific, the former extending along the western coast of the Americas, the latter beginning in the Peninsula of Kamtschatka, where there are twelve close together, and extending down the coast of Asia and through the South Pacific islands to the antartic regions. East and west of this great chain extend two branches, the first through Navigator, Friendly and Elizabeth islands, the second through Java, Sumatra, the Nicobar and Andaman islands, almost to the coast of Burmah. The leading volcanic range comprises not only the Kamtschatka and Japanese volcanoes, but four active vents in New Guinea, a number in New Britain, the Solomon Islands and the New Hebrides, several in New Zealand and Mounts Erebus and Terror in the antarctic zone. The American system comprises thirty-one active vents in the Aleutian Islands, several in Alaska and British Columbia, and two or three in the United States. Throughout the Rocky Mountains there are frequent evidences of volcanic action in comparatively recent times, and in the Andes hundreds of extinct volcanoes are found. The best-known volcanoes are not the highest. Vesuvius is but 3978 feet above the sea; Hecla, 3970; Stromboli, 3000, while Ætna is 10,874. In contrast with these are Iahama, in Peru, 23,000 feet; Tiullaillac, in Chili, 21,000; Arequipa, Peru, 20,500; Cayambi, Ecuador, 19,813; Cotopaxi, 19,500; Mount St. Elias, 17,900; Popocatapetl, 17,844. Twenty-four known volcanoes each exceed 10,000 feet in height. The isolated volcanoes, apparently unconnected with any system, are those of Iceland, a group said to to exist in the heart of Siberia, a group mentioned as being located in China, and the Sandwich Island group.

A True Insect-Voice.

Several other species of insects have apparatus for producing sounds similar to that of the grasshopper, or modifications of it. Of a different type is that with which the cicadas are endowed—the only creature of this class which has vocal apparatus analogous to those of the higher animals. Only the males of this family are singers, for which the Greek poets called them happy because their females were dumb. With the ancients, a cicada sitting on a harp was the symbol of music. A pretty fable tells of the contest of two cithara-players, in which the curious event happened that when one of the contestants broke a string, a singing cicida sprang on his harp and helped him out so that he gained the prize. The Greeks, who shut the insects in cages so as to be sung to by them in their sleep, were at odds concerning the nature of their singing apparatus; and the controversy among naturalists on the subject lasted till very recently. The zoologist H. Landois, who investigated the difficult subject of animal sounds with ceaseless industry and great skill, was able to give a satisfactory solution of the question. According to his research, the case is one in which the sound is really made by air circulating through passages in the interior of the body. Every insect's body is penetrated by a system of breathing tubes or trachæ, which open at places on the surface. The openings are called stigmata. This system of breathing-tubes, through which the air is inspired and expired, takes the place of the lung of the higher animals. Landois discovered them in very obscure parts of the cicada, and found that they form a kind of windpipe representing the actual tone-factory of the animals.—[Popular Science Monthly.]

Strengthening Cast Iron.

Some of the most prominent iron founders are introducing a new and simple practice in order to secure stronger castings, the method in question consisting in placing thin sheets of wrought iron in the center of the mold previous to the operation of casting. This method was first resorted to, it appears, in the casting of thin plates for the ovens of cooking stoves, it being found that a sheet of thin iron in the center of a quarter inch oven plate rendered it practically unbreakable by fire.

This result has led to the process being now applied to the casting of large iron pipes, a core of sheet iron imparting additional strength and lessening the liability to any fracture. As an evidence of the additional strength capable of being imparted by this means, it is stated that a plate of iron one-fourth of an inch thick, cast with a perforated sheet of 27-wire gauge wrought iron in the center, possessed six times the strength of a similar cast plate with no core. The quarter inch plate had the strength of a plate one inch thick.

Kerosene will soften hard shoes.

Niagara Falls.

We see it stated, says the Manchester *Mirror*, that a survey of the crest line of Niagara Falls, carried out by the New York state engineer, shows that as compared with the lines taken in 1842 at the American fall there has been a mean recession of 6.78 inches yearly, and at the Canadian (or Horeshoe) fall a mean recession of 2.18 feet yearly. The American fall has thus receded 30.92 feet and the Canadian fall 104.6 feet in 48 years. The length of the crest line of the American fall was 1080 feet in 1842, and 1060 feet in 1890; while the crestline of the Horseshoe fall has increased from 2260 feet to 3010 feet in the same time.

The total area of rock which has disappeared since 1841 is 32,000 square feet at the American and 285,400 at the Canadian fall. Apropos of this, we may mention the fact that a movement is actively on foot to utilize at least a portion of the power furnished by the water of the falls. The Canadian *Manufacturer* says that "the effort now being made to utilize a portion of this power will no doubt be commercially successful, for although the preliminary work will be great, and require considerable time for its completion, yet when finished the benefits to be derived therefrom will in all probability exceed present expectations. Late developments in the method of power transmission point strongly toward the successful introduction in the city of New York of a portion of the power developed at the Falls.

It says that judging from present indications the realization of this plan is not far distant. Careful computations show that the weight of water which falls each hour is about 100,000,000 tons. This would represent about 16,000,000 horse power—a vast amount of power, surely, from which but very little practical benefit is derived. This compared with the amount of horse power made use of in the world, shows that Niagara Falls alone is more than capable of doing all the work now done by steam machinery. The total daily production of coal throughout the whole word would be just about sufficient to pump back the water which flows over the falls.

The New Texas Mineral.

The new mineral which has been recently discovered in Texas is causing a considerable degree of interest to be manifested throughout the state. An investigation of it is being made and great results are expected. It is a substance resembling asphalt, and it is said to be unaffected by water, hail, acid or alkalies, and it is claimed to be the most perfect insulator yet discovered.

Numerous tests have been made. It is found that the action of salt water and heat has no effect on it. Prof. Hamilton, the electrician of the Western Electric Company of Austin, certifies that under tests executed in the most exhaustive manner wire prepared with a covering of the material showed a resistance of over 7,000 ohms per mile. This is said to be seven-fold the resistance offered by any other wire. There is also said to be practically no limit in the state to the supply of this strange mineral, which is found in veins ranging in depth from two to forty feet.

The world of science and mechanical industry will await with interest further investigation, which is needed to prove the utility of the new discovery beyond peradventure.

Fast Railroading.

"There is an item going the rounds of the press again concerning the higher speed of European railroads as compared with those of this country," remarked the travelling auditor of one af Chicago's trunk lines the other night at the Palmer House. "It should be called in. It juggles with the truth. I spent last summer in Europe, and while there I studied the railroad situation pretty thoroughly. The average speed of our passenger trains is considerably higher than the average of similar trains in England, Germany or France. England has two trains and Germany one which make very fast time for comparatively short distances, but all things considered, the European roads are not to be compared with ours for a moment in point of speed, service or safety. The English coaches are much lighter than ours and this should increase their speed; but in point of fact it does not, while the English trains have none of the conveniences of modern railway travel in this country. The only point where Europe beats us in the railroad business is in having better stations. Within the nexty twenty-five years the United States will surpass the rest of creation in this regard too."

Strange Hibernation.

We have heard of toads that have been imprisoned in solid rock for centuries and that were found alive when their abiding place was cleft open. This reminds me of things I have observed about certain fishes in winter, says a writer in *Harper's Young People*. A large number of fishes, some of them living in deep ponds, brooks, or out in silent nooks of the sea, will remain for four, five, or even six months in the same position without eating or so much as moving fin or tail.

In the government fish hatchery, under the management of Mr. Wilmott, superintendent of pisciculture for the Dominion of Canada, at New Castle, Ont., I had much opportunity to study certain fishes in winter, for they could be clearly seen through the glass sides of the tank. In one tank, about one-third of the way up from the bottom, were half a dozen German-carp, all facing the direction from which the water flowed. I noticed their positions about Christmas, saw them again in January, twice in February and two or three times in March, and in all that time not one of them had changed its position or moved fin or tail.

Mr. Wilmott told me that this is quite usual among these fishes. He permitted me to raise the cover of the tank and poke a couple of them with my stick. Each one made a slow, lazy movement and relapsed into stillness. Just above the carp, in the same tank, was an eel about three feet long. When I first saw it in December it was curved like a perfect S, and all through the winter it preserved that shape without, so far as Mr. Wilmott knew, once moving.

This, I may add, is how many kinds of fishes spend the winter. So long as they remain perfectly still there is no waste of animal tissue, and they do not need food. Put a frog in a tank at the beginning of the winter, then place a small piece of wood in the tank; the frog will get upon the wood with his eyes looking straight up, and never so much as move until the weather begins to get warm in the spring; he will then begin to jump about and look for something to eat.

But the strangest case of hibernation that I know has been related to me by Dr. Ferguson, the pathologist of New York hospital. In one of the small tanks belonging to the hospital museum a carp of a particular description had been placed. One very cold night the water where the fish was kept was frozen through and the fish imbedded in it. The care taker took the ice from the vessel and placed it on top of the ash-barrel where rubbish was put away. The cylinder of ice remained where it was put for about two months till the hot spring sun one day melted it down to the place where the fish was frozen. Some attache of the hospital then was surprised to notice a fish wriggling in a piece of ice. The carp had survived the imprisonment, passed the period of hibernation, and resumed his old activity.

An Extraordinary Scene.

A very curious spectacle was to be seen on the outskirts of Gainesville last week, says a Jacksonville (Fla.) letter to the Atlanta Constitution. Alachua lake, a sheet of water from ten to fifteen miles in length and covering some forty thousand acres of land, is no more. On its banks were lying thousands of dead fish; dead alligators floated ghastly in pools of black water, and the atmosphere was heavy with noxious gases. Men and boys were there in throngs, crowding around the pools left by the receding waters, and with hoes and rakes dragging to the shore hundreds of fish which had sought their depths for refuge. The waters were fairly alive with their struggles for existence.

Except for a small stream known as Payne's creek, flowing from Newnan's lake into the Sink, the two main basins of the Sink and a few stagnant pools, no water is now to be seen where a few years ago steamers were plowing their way. This is the second time since 1823 that a similar occurrence has taken place. At that time, the earliest year in which there is any record of that part of the country, the bed of the lake was a large prairie, Payne's prairie, having in it a body of water called the Sink and a small creek. In 1868 heavy rains filled up the prairie, but the water disappeared after a short time and the prairie was again dry land. In 1873, after a series of heavy rains, the Sink overflowed and the creek swelled to the dimensions of a lake. During several years the waters increased until a larger lake was formed and for fully fifteen years sufficient depth of water stood over the prairie to allow of the plying to and fro of small steamers. During the last two years, however, the waters have been gradually lowering, and about three weeks ago they commenced going down with surprising rapidity, the lake falling about eight feet in ten days, until now nothing is left of Alachua lake but the memory of it. The Sink is considered the cause of this change. There is evidently an underground passage connected with it, and for some reason not understood this underground passage has been acting as a drain until all the water in the lake has been drawn off.

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