DENTON JOURNAL.

1845. A FAMILY NEWSPAPER,—DEVOTED TO LOCAL AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE, AGRICULTURE, AND ADVERTISING:—INDEPENDENT ON ALL SUBJECTS. 1887

VOL. 41. DENTON, MARYLAND: SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 6, 1887. NO. 48.

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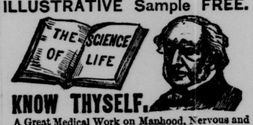

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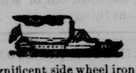

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THE PRESENT TIME.

Voices that call upon us from the past
Strengthen our hearts and daily cheer us on;
A noble legacy, which long shall last,
Is our inheritance of deeds well done.
But Hope looks forward with a brighter face
Than Memory's. Forgetting days gone by,
It sets its foot to run a better race
Than any mortal yet has dared to try;
It sees more glories than have yet been won,
It hears strong voices, urging men to rise
And look no more on what is past and gone,
But, with their faces lifted to the skies,
To live like heroes, so that men shall say,
"Life never had such meaning as to-day."

—C. M. Sheldon in Youth's Companion.

LIFE IN ANDALUSIA.

The Sellers of Eatables—The Potter and His Clay—Law and Order.

The street life in Andalusia is full of interest, too. The oil man—a functionary answering to our milkman in some respects—will be the first to awake you with his discordant cry; then come the sellers of fried comestibles of different kinds, which you are supposed to require as an adjunct to your morning chocolate; later on the venders of vegetables, chiefly patronized by those who find the market too far off. It is very amusing to watch the transactions with these "costers." As winter approaches, various delicacies—unknown in other countries, I fancy—will make their appearance. The batata, or sweet Malaga potatoe, candied, or sold in a syrup made of sugar, is delicious; turron, from Alicante (a sweetmeat resembling French nougat), quince cheese, and many cakes and bonbons, some of which inspire suspicion in the mind of the foreigner, will be sold in enormous quantities, for your Spaniard has a sweet tooth.

As you pass along the narrow streets and byways, you may notice through some open doorway a great baking furnace, fed with piles of heather and rosemary; here and there an untidy garden with a noria, or Moorish well, whose wheel a patient old mule is turning; perhaps a family sitting outside in the sun, making the clay pots which play so large a part in the arrangement of the cuisine here, the said pots being dried in the open air; indeed, you may light on some very remarkable interiors if you are curious in that way, and will take the trouble to seek them out. The last sound at night is usually the "sereno," or watchman, calling out the hour and the state of the weather as he paces up and down in silence, whistling occasionally to his fellows to keep up communication of some sort with them.

When it is cold they light fires at the street corners and look uncommonly picturesque as they lounge about in their great cloaks and three cornered hats; they do wonders in the way of keeping order among this lawless people, who draw out their long knife (navaja) on the slightest provocation, and do such deadly work with it. Even the country roads—to a reasonable distance—are now pretty safe; you will hardly meet with anything more unpleasant than a beggar or two, hungry, lean dogs, or long lines of mules with a palm leaf carefully cut in relief on their sides and necks, gayly decked out with tassels, fringes and bells, ridden by picturesque looking brigands sitting sideways, got up in crimson sashes, very white stockings, sandals and remarkable hats, who will courteously offer you some of their breakfast or dinner, if they happen to be eating it, and will expect you to reply—in the negative.—Cor. Home Journal.

Ready Made Sermons.

I am acquainted with a man who began life as a divinity student. An irregular life has been his bane. He lives by writing on general topics for the press, and for a long time has earned $15 a week by furnishing a clergyman of this city with his sermons. I have heard the discourses read to me in manuscript by the author, and have often seen portions of them quoted and credited to the preacher, who presides over a wealthy congregation and is in receipt of a handsome income.

I made the acquaintance of the man who furnishes this clerical impostor with his rhetorical ammunition ten years ago. He was then, as he is now, addicted to drink, but he has always preserved considerable personal dignity, and his brilliant intellect would captivate any one. He once borrowed some money from me, telling me the story of his ministerial employer in excuse. He read me part of the sermon he had written for that week, and as I doubted his story I went to the church on Sunday and actually heard it preached. A number of times I have suggested texts to him and read or heard afterward of their delivery in the shape he worked them into. I fully believe the author, in his assertion that for more than a dozen years his patron has never preached except from a manuscript of his providing, and that in all that time he has been obtaining a fine salary from his congregation under false pretenses.—Alfred Trumble in New York News.

Clipping, Filing, Sweating Coin.

"Milling" the edge of our gold and silver coins, termed also "graining" and "crenating," first employed in 1646, to prevent their being injured by wear, and more especially by being clipped by rogues, is a hint taken from the ancient Syrians and Romans, who treated their coins similarly and for like reasons, by cutting out regular notches round the border, so as to show the inside of the metal. But the old forgers were not to be so easily beaten, and made corresponding incisions in their copper imitations, plating them over with silver. Clipping, filing and sweating coins—that is, immersing them in some strong acid that will eat away the surface, thus causing them to lose their weight, and consequently their value—are among the clumsier dodges; while the plan of covering pieces of iron, lead, copper, or other metal, cut to the size and shape of the coin to be imitated, with a thin plate of gold or silver neatly stamped and soldered at the edges, which can only be detected by weight and sound, calls for a greater degree of skill and manipulation.—Chambers' Journal.

Meat Dishes in Rome.

You may get the choicest and dantiest of pastries, puddings, jellies and preserves, and the very finest of vegetables and ripest of fruits, but they cannot supply the want of roast beef. Veal cutlet cut into thin slices and fried to a crisp is about the best meat dish in Rome.

Wearing Their Welcome Out.

Entertaining visitors constitutes no small tax on the government exchequer of the hospitable state of Hyderabad. Any native of rank who brings letters of introduction to the Nizam is provided with a house, provisions, servants, carriages, etc., at government expense for an unlimited stay, and guests invariably remain until dismissed by a state present of shawls, jewelry or cash. Some visitors stay for a month at a time, and several have remained for a year or two.—Boston Traveler.

The three finest postage stamp collections in Europe are those of a Brussels and a Leipsic amateur, and that of the Antwerp University.

POWER OF OLD OCEAN

As Seen by the Keeper of the Highland Light on Cape Cod.

In 1796 Mr. James Small sold to the general government ten acres of land located on the bluffs at the back side of the cape, known as the Highlands, and the following year a wooden lighthouse, the first on Cape Cod, was built on the spot and called Cape Cod light. The building was a crude affair, as was the light, which consisted of twelve oil lamps with reflectors, which, combined, threw a light about eight or ten miles out at sea. With the advance of science improvements were from time to time made both in the light and the building. The wooden structure gave place to a stone tower, and this was also followed in time by the present structure, which is a substantial tower of brick, situated in latitude 42 degs. 2 minutes 21 seconds, longitude 70 degs. 3 minutes 18 seconds, on cliffs 140 feet above mean-sea level in this section.

The lens is 6 feet across and 10 feet high, being large enough to allow a person to stand erect inside, and with outstretched arms just touch the opposite sides. It is of French manufacture, made by L. Sautter & Co., of Paris, in 1854, and was put in position in 1857. Its cost was $30,000. In the center or focus of the lens is a brass lamp of 10 gallons capacity. The burner is supplied with oil through a supply tube and float chamber containing a float to regulate the flow of oil, supplying it as fast as consumed. The oil is forced into the float chamber by a plunger within the lamp of 100 pounds weight, made to fit air tight. The bulk of the oil is kept as far from the burner as possible to prevent heating. The burner has 5 wicks of circular form, one within the others with air spaces between, the outer wick being 4 1-2 inches in diameter; the 5 wicks taken together measure 43 inches in length, and the flame from which is carried to a height of 5 inches. The consumption is 2 quarts of first quality mineral oil every hour. This oil is strained four times before reaching the burner.

The lamp is connected by draft pipe, having a damper to regulate the flame, with the external air through the top of the lantern, and is thereby dependent on the activity of the outer air and very sensitive to every change in direction and force of wind, and requires constant tending.

Highland light is one of the most prominent points of the American coast and in full view of the coasting fleets as they go trooping past from the different ports. The sight at times is a magnificent one, as many as 600 vessels having been counted passing in one day. With the coasters occasionally appears a foreign "tramp" steamer from the West Indies, and from out at sea comes the square rigger from Europe or the far East Indies, while away off on the horizon can be seen the smoke of the passing ocean steamers to and from Europe. This is the first light made by the vessels from foreign ports coming on this part of the coast.

The storms seen by the light keepers are often terrible pictures of the powers of old ocean. The huge waves come rolling in twelve and fifteen feet high, and, breaking on the bars, cover the water with foam two and three miles from the shore. The treacherous fogs often shut in very quick, making it at times impossible to see fifty yards from the shore.

Connected with the light is a Daboli fog signal, which has been in operation about fourteen years. The blast of the trumpets of eight seconds duration, with intervals of thirty seconds between blasts, and is supposed to be heard at a distance of six miles.

The signal is run by the Ericsson caloric engine. There are three engines in the building, two horse power each; two being used at a time, it requiring two to accumulate pressure as fast as blown off, the third being kept in reserve in case of accident. These hot air engines are much less dangerous and more economical in fuel consumed, using but twenty-two pounds of coal per hour, while a steam fog signal at Race point uses about three times as much in the same time. This trumpet is a reed instrument, of copper, about twenty feet in length. The reed is a solid piece of steel, about one foot long, narrow and thin, and it is the vibration of this reed, as air under a high pressure is thrown against it, that causes the hoarse sound that is thrown over the wild waves.

Many strange scenes have been witnessed by the keepers of this well known light, and ghastly relics of shipwrecks have been found along the shore. The log book tells of the loss of many a good ship; sometimes it is written "all lost;" nex, some have lived to tell the tale, and next come the cheerful words "all saved." Of the ten acres originally purchased about seven remain, a sure proof of the ravages of old ocean. The cliffs at this point are of a heavy clay soil and wear away very slowly. Beach grass has caught in along the foot of the cliffs in places, and has done more than all the money spent by the government to prevent the cliffs from washing away.

Beach grass grows well in sandy places, and has proved one of the best of protections to Cape Cod. The gradual waste away in this vicinity has been estimated to be about one foot per year, while at some other points the coast line has increased. The tides along here are something wonderful, sweeping down the coast faster than a man can walk.

The establishment of Cape Cod light was followed, in 1816, by the fixed white light on Race point. In 1823 by the light on Mononomy point. In 1826 by the fixed white light on Long point, at the entrance of Providence harbor. The three beacons at Nauset were established in 1837, and the revolving red light on Wood end in 1872. These constitute the cordon of lights that guide the mariner along the back shore of Cape Cod.—Boston Globe.

Too Great a Temptation.

Roses are not plentiful in our city gardens, or even in our parks. Last year the Lincoln park (Chicago) gardener made some effort this way by a gorgeous bed of the choicer Remontant roses. But for his temerity he had to protect his bed by a wire fence. The plateaus of picture gardening on the green grass, the monstrous beds of color around the fountain, or at the end of the walk, were all safe, but a bed of grand roses was too great a temptation for those who see them generally only in the florists' windows.—Prairie Farmer.

Inequality in the Pupils.

Inequality in the pupils of the eyes has been taken as a symptom of illness, but in 134 healthy persons a Russian physician has found only twelve with right and left pupils of equal size.—Arkansaw Traveler.

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