POETRY.

"I VEX ME NOT."

I vex me not with brooding on the years
That were ere I drew breath; why should I then
Distrust the darkness that may fall again
When life is done? Perchance in other spheres—
Dead plants—I once tasted mortal tears,
And walked as now among a throng of men,
Pondering things that lay beyond my ken,
Questioning death, and solacing my fears.
Who knows? Oftimes strange sense have I of this,
Vague memories that hold me with a spell,
Touches of unseen lips upon my brow,
Breathing some incommunicable bliss!
In years foregone, O Soul, was all not well?
Still lovelier life awaits thee. Fear not thou?

—THE CENTURY.

MAY.

I climbed and I climbed to the top of the tree;
High up in the branches I stood,
Below in the field was a man with his plough,
And I called him as loud as I could.

He stopped, and he looked at the hedges and lane,
And no one at all could he see,
For he never once thought, as he wondered and stared
I was up in the top of the tree.

I swung and I swayed with the tree in the wind;
I was not afraid I would fall;
The maple seeds spread out their little green wings,
And nobody saw me at all.

—ST. NICHOLAS.

SELECT STORY

THE PIONEERS.

By J. Finimore Cooper.

AUTHOR OF "THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS," "THE PATHFINDER," "HOMEWARD BOUND," ETC.

CHATER I.

"See, Winter comes, to rule the varied year,
Sullen and sad, with all his raising train;
Vapors, and clouds, and storms."

—THOMSON.

Near the centre of the State of New York lies an extensive district of country whose surface is a succession of hills and dales, or, to speak with greater deference to geographical definitions, of mountains and valleys. It is among these hills that the Delaware takes its rise; and, flowing from the limpid lakes and thousand springs of this region, the numerous sources of the Susquehanna meander through the valleys, until, uniting their streams, they form one of the proudest rivers of the United States. The mountains are generally arable to the tops, although instances are not wanting where the sides are jutted with rocks, that aid greatly in giving to the country that romantic and picturesque character which it so emiently possesses. The vales are narrow, rich, and cultivated, with a stream uniformly winding through each. Beautiful and thriving villages are found interspersed along the margins of the small lakes, or situated at those points of the streams which are favorable for manufacturing; and neat and comfortable farms, with every indication of wealth about them, are scattered profusely through the vales, and even to the mountain tops. Roads diverge in every direction from the even and graceful bottoms of the valleys to the most rugged and intricate passes of the hills. Academies and minor edifices of learning meet the eye of the stranger at every few miles as he winds his way through this uneven territory, and places for the worship of God abound with that variety of exterior and canonical government which flows from unfettered liberty of conscience. In short, the whole distric is hourly exhibiting how much can be done, in even a rugged country and with a severe climate, under the dominion of mild laws, and where every man feels a direct interest in the prosperity of a common-wealth of which he knows himself to form a part. The expendients of the pioneers who first broke ground in the settlement of this country are succeeded by the permanent improvements of the yeoman who intends to leave his remains lo molder under the sod which he tills, or, perhaps, of the son, who, born in the land, piously wishes to linger around the grave of his father. Only forty years have passed since this territory was a wilderness.

Very soon after the establishment of the indepedence of the States by the peace of 1783, the enterprise of their citizens was directed to a development of the natural advantages of their widely extended dominions. Before the war of the Revolution, the inhabited parts of the colony of New York were limited to less than a tenth of its possessions. A narrow belt of country, extending for a short distance on either sides of the Hudson, with a similar occupation of fifty miles on the banks of the Mohawk, together with the islands of Nassau and Staten, and a few insulated settlements on chosen land along the margins of streams, composed the country, which was then inhabited by less than two hundred thousand souls. Within the short period we have mentioned, the population has spred itself over five degrees of latitude and seven of longitude, and has swelled to a million and a half of inhabitants, who are maintained in abundance, and can look forward to ages, before the evil day must arrive when their possessions shall become unequal to their wants.

Our tale begins in 1793, about seven years after the commencement of one of the earliest of those settlements which have conduced to effect that magical change in the power and condition of the State to which we have alluded.

It was near the setting of the sun, on a clear, cold day in December, when a sleigh was moving slowly up one of the mountains, in the district we have described. The day has been fine for the season, and but two or three large clouds, whose color seemed brightened by the light reflected from the mass of snow that covered the earth, floated in a sky of the purest blue. The road wound along the brow of a precipice, and on one side was upheld by a foundation of logs, piled one upon the other, while a narrow excavation in the mountain in the opposite direction had made a passage by sufficient width for the ordinary travelling of that day. But logs, excavation, and everything that did not reach several feet above the earth lay alike buried beneath the snow. A single track, barely wide enough to receive the sleigh, denoted the route of the highway, and this was sunk nearly two feet below the surrounding surface. In the vale, which lay at a distance of several hundred feet lower, there was what, in the language of the country, was called a clearing and all the usual improvements of a new settlement; these even extended up the hill to the point where the road turned short and ran across the level land, which lay on the summit of the mountain; but the summit itself remained in the forest. There was glittering in the atmosphere, as if it was filled with innumerable shining particles; and the noble bay horses that drew the sleigh were covered, in many parts, with a coat of hoar frost. The vapor from their nostrils was seen to issue like smoke; and every object in the view, as well as every arrangement of the travellers, denoted the depth of a winter in the mountains. The harness, which was of a deep, dull black, differing from the glossy varnishing of the present day, was ornamented with enormous plates and buckles of brass, that shone like gold in those transient beams of the sun, which found their way obliquely through the tops of the trees. Huge saddles, studded with nails and fitted with cloth that served as blankets to the shoulders of the cattle, supported four high, square-topped turrets, through which the stout reins led from the mouths of the horses to the hands of the driver, who was a negro, of apparently twenty years of age. His face, which Nature had colored with a glistening black, was now mottled with the cold, and his large shining eyes filled with tears; a tribute to its power, that the keen frosts of those regions always extracted from one of his African origin. Still, there was a smiling expression of good-humor in his happy countenance, that was created by the thoughts of home, and a Christmas fireside, with its Christmas frolics. The sleigh was one of those large, comfortable, old-fashioned conveyances, which would admit a whole family within its bosom, but which now contained only two passengers besides the driver. The color of its outside was a modest green, and that of its inside a fiery red. The latter was intended to convey the idea of heat in that cold climate. Large buffalo-skins, trimmed around the edges with red cloth, cut into festoons, covered the back of the sleigh, and were spread over its bottom, and drawn up around the feet of the travellers—one of who was a man of middle age, and the other a female, just entering upon womanhood. The former was of a large stature; but the precautions he had taken to guard against the cold left but little of his person exposed to view. A great coat, that was abundantly ornamented by a profusion of furs, enveloped the whole of his figure, excepting the head, which was covered with a cap of marten-skins, lined with morocco, the sides of which were made to fall, if necessary, and were now drawn close over the ears, and fastened beneath his chin with a black ribbon. The top of the cap was surmounted with the tail of the animal whose skin had furnished the rest of the materials, which fell back, not ungracefully, a few inches behind the head. From beneath this mask were to be seen part of a fine, manly face, and particularly a pair of expressive, large blue eyes, that promised extraordinary intellect, covert humor, and great benevolence. The form of his companion was literally hid beneath the garments she wore. There were furs and silks peeping from under a large comlet cloak, with a thick flannel lining, that, by its cut and size, with evidently intended for a masculine wearer. A huge hood of black silk, that was quilted with down, concealed the whole of her head, except at a small opening in front for breath, through which occasionally sparkled a pair of animated jet-black eyes.

Both the father and daughter (for such was the connection between the two travellers) were too much occupied with their reflections to break a stillness, that derived little or no interruption from the easy gliding of the sleigh, by the sound of their voices. The former was thinking of the wife that had held this their only child to her bosom, when four years before, she reluctantly consented to relinquish the society of her daughter, in order that the latter might enjoy the advantages of an education which the city of New York could only offer at that period. A few months afterward death had deprived him of the remaining companion of his solitude; but still he had enough real regard for his child, not to bring her into the comparative wilderness in which he dwelt, until the full period had expired to which he had limited her juvenile labors. The reflections of the daughter were less melancholy, and mingled with a pleased astonishment at the novel scenery she met at every turn in the road.

The mountain on which they were journeying was covered with pines that rose without a branch some seventy or eighty feet, and which frequently doubled that height, by the addition of the tops. Through the innumerable vistas that opposite side of the valley to which they were hastening. The dark trunks of the trees rose from the pure white of the snow, in regularly formed shafts, until, at a great height, their branches shot forth horizontal limbs, that were covered with the meagre foliage of an evergreen, affording a melancholy contrast to the torpor of nature below. To the travellers, there seemed to be no wind; but these pines waved majestically at their topmost boughs, sending forth a dull, plaintive sound that was quite in consonance with the rest of the melancholy scene.

The sleigh had glided for some distance along the even surface, and the gaze of the female was bent in inquisitive, and, perhaps, timid glances, into the recesses of the forest, when a loud and continued howling was heard, pealing under the long arches of the woods, like the cry of a numerous pack of hounds. The instant the sounds reached the ears of the genteman he cried aloud to the black:

"Hold up, Aggy; there is old Hector; I should know his bay amounted ten thousand! The Leather-Stocking has put his hounds into the hills, this clear day, and they have started their game. There is a deer-track a few rods ahead; and now, Bess, if thou cast muster courage enough to stand fire, I will give thee a saddle for thy Christmas dinner."

The black drew up, with a cheerful grin upon his chilled features, and began thrashing his arms together, in order to restore the circulation of his fingers, while the speaker stood erect, and, throwing aside his outer covering stepped from the sleigh upon a bank of snow, which sustained his weight without yielding.

In a few moments the speaker succeeded in extricating a double-barrelled fowling-piece from among a multitude of trunks and handboxes. After throwing aside the thick mittens which had encased his hands, there now appeared a pair of leather gloves tipped with fur, he examined his priming, and was about to move forward, when the light bounding noise of an animal plunging through the woods was heard, and a fine buck darted into the path, a short distance ahead of him. The appearance of the animal was sudden, and his flight inconceivably rapid; but the traveller appeared to be too keen a sportsman to be disconcerted by either. As it came first into view he raised the fowling-piece to his shoulder, and, with a practised eye and steady hand, drew a trigger. The deer dashed forward undaunted, and apparently unhurt. Without lowering his piece, the traveller turned its muzzle toward his victim, and fired again. Neither discharge, however, seemed to have taken effect.

The whole scene had passed with a rapidity that confused the female, who was unconsciously rejoicing in the escape of the buck, as he rather darted like a meteor, than ran across the road, when a sharp, quick sound struck her ear, quite different from the full, round reports of her father's gun, but still sufficiently distinct to be known as the concussion produced by fire-arms. At the same instant that she heard this unexpected report, the buck sprang from the snow to a great height in the air, and directly a second discharge, similar in sound to the first, followed, when the animal came to the earth, falling head-long, and rolling over on the crust with its own velocity. A loud shout was given by the unseen marksman, and a couple of men instantly appeared from behind the trunks of two of the pines, where they had evidently placed themselves in expectation of the passage of the deer.

"Ha! Natty, had I known you were in ambush, I should not have fired," cried the traveller, moving toward the spot where the deer lay—near to which he was followed by the delighted black, with his sleigh; "but the sound of old Hector was too exhilarating to be quiet; though I hardly think I struck him, either."

"No—no—Judge," returned the hunter, with an inward chuckle, and with that look of exultation that indicates a consciousness of superior skill, "you burnt your powder only to warm your nose this cold evening. Did ye think to stop a full-grown buck, with Hector and the slut open upon him within sound, with that pop-gun in your hand? There's plenty of pheasant among the swamps; and the snow-birds are flying round your own door, where you may feed them with crumbs, and shoot them at pleasure, any day; but if you're for a buck, or a little bear's meat, Judge, you'll have to take the long rifle, with a greased wadding, or you'll waste more powder than you'll fill stomachs, I'm thinking."

As the speaker concluded he drew his bare hand across the bottom of his nose, and again opened his enormous mouth, with a kind of inward laugh.

"The gun scatters well, Natty, and it has killed a deer before now," said the traveller, smiling good-humoredly. "One barrel was charged with buck-shot, but the other was loaded for birds only. Here are two hurts; one tnrough the neck, and the other directly through the heart. It is by no means certain, Natty, but I gave him one of the two."

"Let who will kill him," said the hunter, rather surlily, "I suppose the creature is to be eaten." So saying, he drew a large knife from a leathern sheath, which was stuck through his girdle, or sash, and cut the throat of the animal. "If there are two balls through the deer, I would ask if there wer'n't two rifles fired—besides, who ever such a ragged hole from a smooth-bore as this through the neck? And you will own yourself, Judge, that the buck fell at the last shot, which was sent from a truer and a younger hand than your'n or mine either; but, for my part, although I am a pooor man I can live without the venison, but I don't love to give up my lawful dues in a free country. Though, for the matter of that, might often makes right here, as well as in the old country, for what I can see."

An air of sullen dissatisfaction pervaded the manner, of the hunter during the whole of his speech; yet he thought it prudent to utter the close of the sentence in such an undertone as to leave nothing audible but the grumbling sounds of his voice.

"Nay, Natty," rejoined the traveller, with undisturbed good-humor, "it is for the honor that I content. A few dollars will pay for the venison; but what will requite me for the lost honor of a buck's tail in my cup? Think, Natty, how I should triumph over that quizzing dog, Dick Jones, who has failed seven times already this season, and has only brought in one wood-chuck and a few gray squirrels."

"Ah! the game is becoming hard to find indeed, Judge, with your clearings and betterments," said the old hunter, with a kind of compelled resignation. "The time has been when I have shot thirteen deer, without counting the fa'ns, standing in the door of my own hut; and for bear's meat, if one wanted a ham or so, he had only to watch a-nights, and he could shoot one by moonlight, through the cracks of the logs; no fear of his oversleeping himself neither, for the howling of the wolves was sartin to keep his eyes open. There's old Hector"—patting with affection a tall hound of black and yellow spots, with white belly and legs, that just then came in on the scene, accompanied by the slut he had mentioned; "see where the wolves bit his throat, the night I druv them from the venison that was smoking on the chimney top—that dog is more to be trusted than many a Christain man; for he never forgets a friend, and loves the hand that gives him bread."

There was a peculiarity in the manner of the hunter that attracted the notice of the young female, who had been a close and interested observer of his appearance and equipments, from the moment he came into view. He was tall, and so meagre as to make him seem above even the six feet that he actually stood in his stockings. On his head, which was thinly covered with lank, sandy hair, he wore a cap made of fox-skin, resembling in shape the one we have already described, although much inferior in finish and ornaments. His face was skinny and thin almost to emaciation; but yet it bore no signs of disease—on the contrary, it had every indication of the most robust and enduring health. The cold and exposure had, together, given it a color of uniform red. His gray eyes were glancing under a pair of shaggy brows, that overhung them in long hairs of gray mingled with their natural hue; his scraggy neck was bare, and burnt to the same tint with his face; though a small part of a shirt collar, made of the country check was to be seen above the overdress he wore. A kind of coat, made of dressed deerskin, with the hair on, was belted close to his lank body, by a girdle of colored worsted. On his feet were deerskin moccasins, ornamented with porcupines' quills, after the manner of the Indians, and his limbs were guarded with long leggings of the same material as the moccasins, which, gartering over the knees of his tarnished buckskin breeches, had obtained for him, among the settlers the nickname of Leather-Stocking. Over his left shoulder was slung a belt of deer-skin, from which depended an enormous ox-horn, so thinly scraped as to discover the powder it contained. The larger end was fittted ingeniously and securely with a wooden bottom, and the other was stopped tight by a little plug. A leathern pouch hung before him, from which, as he concluded his last speech, he took a small measure, and, filling it accurately with powder, he commenced reloading the rifle, which, as its butt rested on the snow before him, reached nearly to the top of his foxskin cap.

TO BE CONTINUED.

MEANS BUSINESS.

Harry Stewart tells a good story of a wedding up in Oldtown, Maine, the other day of a hulking fellow just out of the woods and his fair one. The minister began:

"Will you take this woman to be your wedded wife?" when the strapping groom interrupted him as follows:

"Say, Mr. Minister, quit your foolin and get down to bizness. You know I'm here to take this lady, an so what's the use of askin me? Besides I don't allow anybody to call her a woman. She's a ladv, she is."

Sister Lizzie was to be married in a few months, and she was putting in the interval of leisure from preparing for the ceremony in the way of dress by experimenting on her family in the cooking line. Little John was going to bed, and went through his usual prayers up to the point of saying "Give us this day our daily bread,' when some depressing memory struck him, and he added, "But don't let Lizzie bake it."

WHEN DEATH OCCURS.

The Night Hours Not so Fatal as the Day.

A very general opinion is entertained by medical practitioners and others engaged in caring for the sick that the greatest number of deaths occurring in individuals afflicted with disease takes place during the hours immediately succeeding midnight and preceding the dawn. This opinion most probably originates in part from imperfect observation, and partly from a misapplication of the physiological law governing the lowest period of vitality in the healthy individual. The rule is said to be particularly true in those suffering from chronic exhausting diseases, and deductions have been made from these impressions which have served to regulate the administration of stimulants in such cases, it being said, "If 6 ounces of whisky be needed in twenty-four hours, 4 should be administered from 2 to 6 a. m., for then is vatality in the human being at its lowest," and "more deaths occur at these hours than at any other period." Such expressions may be found scattered through works on materia medica and therapeutics, and in many of the text-books, on the practice of medicine. The idea finds expression also in the lectures of teachers in our colleges, and usually leaves a well-grounded impression on the mind of the medical student, which is apt to remain a permanent one. I accepted this teaching at college, because I had neither the means nor the time to verify or disprove it to my own satisfaction. Yet I always doubted the correctness of the conclusions drawn, and, to settle the doubt in my mind, since entering on my duties at the hospital, I have collected statistics, which I find do not agree with this generally accepted idea. There are many circumstances that should greatly tend to increase the death rate at night in a large hospital, principal among which is the great vitiation of the atmosphere during this period. During the night all the patients are confined to the ward, and ventilation is apt to be neglected This must certainly have a very depressing effect on those suffering with pulmonary affections, and on those in whom disease has effected extensive alterations in the physical and chemical characters of the blood. This alone should greatly tend to increase the number of deaths at night, and, if there was any truth in the accepted notion, the records should show quite a preponderance of deaths happening at night.

The contrary is, however, the rule, the figures showing twenty-seven fewer cases during the hours from 6 p. m. to 6 a. m. than for the corresponding twelve hours of the day. Again, from 2 to 6 p. m. there were sixty-six more deaths than from 2 to 6 a. m. The total number of deaths in the list of acute diseases for the twelve hours from 6 p. m. to 6 a. m. is 169 less than for the corresponding period during the day. The hours from 2 to 6 a. m. in this list show fifty-three cases more than for the corresponding period in the afternoon; this in nearly 4,000 cases is very slight. In the chronic cases the greatest number of deaths at any one hour was at 4 p. m., with 2 and 5 p. m. and 6 a. m. closely following. The greatest in the acute list was at 3 a. m., with 11 a. m. and p. m. closely following. The lowest number in the acute list was at 12 m. (midnight), that hour so dreaded in the sick-room by attendants, and to which a good deal of superstition attaches. It is noticeable that the number for this hour is exceedingly low—about half of the average number. In the chronic cases the lowest number appears at 9 a. m.

From these 15,000 cases extending over a period of twelve years, it would appear that death occurs seemingly without any particular predilection for any certain hour, and that the number of deaths for each hour is very evenly proportioned, considering the large number of cases taken and the time covered. The only very positive conclusions I have formed from the figures are: 1. That the idea that more deaths take place in the early morning hours is an erroneous one. 2. If stimulants are to be pushed in disease during these hours the practice must be justified upon some other ground than to avert the possibility of danger supposed to be very probable at this period. 3. That the vitality of an individual disease is not regulated by the same influences or subject to the same laws that govern the vitality of a healthy human being, the normal equilibrium, maintained in health between the mental and physical states being altered.—Dr. John Francis Burns, in New York Medical Journal.

THE DIVINING ROD OUT DONE.

Arthur W. Chellis, a native of Newfield, York county, Maine has invented and improved a mineral ball, which discovers the location of mines and lost money says the Truckee, Col., Republican. It is an oval or egg-shaped ball; about the size of a pullet's egg. It is hollow, and is filled with seven chemicals whose nature and combination is a secret. When allowed to swing by a silken cord, it indicates by its movements where the money or hidden ore islocated. In the presence of witnesses Mr. Chellis has tested his invention with coin, gold and silver ore. In a room or hall, any person can secrete a sum of different sums of money, and Mr. Chellis by means of the ball can find each sum secreted, the larger quantities being the first to attract the ball. It works equally well with gold and silver ore. It will correctly locate a mine at a distance of half a mile.

It will work equally well through air, water, earth or rock. Mr. Chellis has been the superintendent of Richardson Bros. box factory for two years, but now thinks he has invented something which will pay better than his position as superintendent.

There are large sums of money buried in various portions of the country which Chellis thinks he can find. He has just been to Martin county, where $40,000 was buried by a rich old Spaniard some 28 years ago. The ball readily located the spot, being unerringly directed toward it from any point within three hundred yards. A hole was dug ten feet deep but owing to excessive saturation of the soil, by rains, the water drove the searching party away. Just as soon as the earth becomes dry Mr. Chellis will return. He is satisfied he can locate the buried treasure. Mr. Chellis has a host of friends in the community who will be pleased to learn of his success The invention seems magical, but it is based upon scientific principles.

NEEDED LEGISLATION.

She had gone away and left her chewing gum stuck on the back of the sofa, and it was perhaps unfortunate that her little brother saw it. It was certainly grotesque of him to carefully dig out its inside, fill up the cavity with red pepper, carefully plug up the hole and put the gum back in its place. It was little short of calamitous that her beau should call just at that moment in the evening when she had put the gum back in her mouth again. He could not understand her demeanor. He does not even yet comprehend why she danced and shrieked, and finally ran out of the room. There is no question that the bill now upon the legislature providing for the killing of all boys between the ages of 8 and 13 should go through,—Merchant traveler.

NEWS AND NOTES.

A female elephant is known by the size of her trunk.

A workman is known by his chips, and a barber is known by his shavings.

Prof. Loisette's memory system is creating greater interest than ever in all parts of the country and persons wishing to improve their memory should send for his prospectus free as advertised in another column.

In reply to questions regarding his health, a friend says: "I was born in 1800, and have an incurable disease, Anno Domini."

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP should always be used when children are cutting teeth. It relieves the little sufferer at once; it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as "bright as a button." It is very pleasant to taste. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP and take no other kind.

The quiet fellow in the corner who lets his rival do all the talking, generally marries the girl.

Prof. Loisette's memory system is creating greater interest than ever in all parts of the country, and persons wishing to improve their memory should send for his prospectus free as advertised in another column.

If you don't want to be robbed of your good name, do not have it printed on your umbrella.

Prof. Loisette's memory system is creating greater interest than ever in all parts of the country, and persons wishing to improve their memory should send for his prospectus free as advertised in another column.

A hypocritical scoundrel in Athens inscribed over his door: "Let nothing evil enter here.". Diogenes wrote under it: "How does the owner get in?"

What a pity it is that our neighbors do not know as well as we do what is best for them!

Prof. Loisette's Memory system is creating greater interest than ever in all parts of the country, and persons wishing to improve their memory should send for his prospectus free as advertisedn in aother column.

"Here I've been sent to prison for stealing, and now they set me to cut pasteboard soles to be stuck between the leather soles of boots. Do you call that honest?"

Smith had met Brown with his bride. They had just returned from their wedding tour. "Where are they going to live?" "I don't know. He told me he had been house-hunting since yesterday morning, and intended to take a flat." "Ah, indeed. He has then decided to follow his wife's example."

AN INTERESTING TIME IN MAINE.

The skunk is mighty. He always is for that matter, but just now he rules three or four villages in the vicinity of Bangor with an irresistible and odoriferous rule. Hampden has been over-ridden of late with a herd of active and strong-breathed skunks who have made things interesting for folks who ventured out at night. A whole prayer meeting was demoralized by them recently when the worshipers were returning home. That was the only nice thing about it. Had the attack been made on the way to prayer meeting it is doubtful if the exhortations would have been delivered in the same spirit of good will and peace. They might have been more earnest and fervent though. The up-river towns have had similar experience. A fellow and his girl going to a ball met a skunk and didn't go. The fellow swore and the girl cried, and then they went home and put their clothes in pickle. The skunk can be spared. He is unnice.—Bangor News.

THE ENGLISHWOMAN'S FOOT.

Every American woman who sojourns in London raises her voice against the large and ill-fitting shoes which she finds here. The natives seek to justify the monstrosities on the plea that the feet should be clad loosely and stoutly. The truth, however, is that Englishwoman have big feet—abnormally big feet. Moreover, marvellously low insteps seem to be a characteristic of the typical English foot. The Englishwomen are exceedingly sensitive upon the subject of their prodigious pedals, and they make it a point to talk of the propriety of wearing large boots and shoes in order to avert corns and other similar discomforts; yet I am told by dealers in footwear that corns and bunions are quite as prevalent here as elsewhere. Yet there have been English ladies with wonderfully small feet. One of the famous beauties of the Court of George IV. wore a shoe only five inches in length, yet she was above medium height and was otherwise symmetrically proportioned.

AN ANIMAL NOT PROHIBITED.

The New York Star's "Man About Town" tells the following story:—

"Miss, you can't bring dogs into the car," said a Third avenue conductor to a young woman who tenderly held a wriggling little object wrapped up in a shawl.

"'Tain't a dog, "snapped the young woman, and the discomfitted conductor retreated to the rear platform amid a general titter. He studied the case for a few minutes and then, returning to the young woman, said:—"Miss, you can't bring cats in neither."

"'Tan't a cat," said the young woman, "it's a rabbit;" and the long ears emerged in confirmation of her assertion.

At this the conductor looked puzzled for a moment, and then said:—"Well, that's accordin' to the rules of this company; dogs is dogs and cats is dogs, but rabbits is insects; so you can stay."

NOT THIS SPRING.

Come out, my love, this warm spring day
And have a walk with me;
Let's hear the bluebirds in the air,
The bursting blossoms see.

Altho' 'twere wise to take your skates
And ulster as you go,
Because ere we come back again
We may have ice and snow.

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This powder never varies. A marvel of purity strength, and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. *Sold only in cans.* ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 Wall-st., New York.

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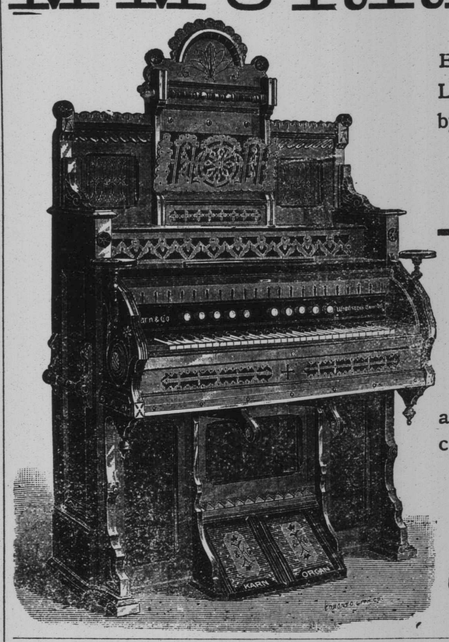

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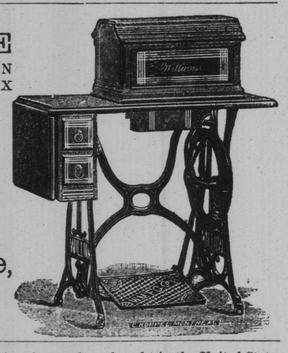

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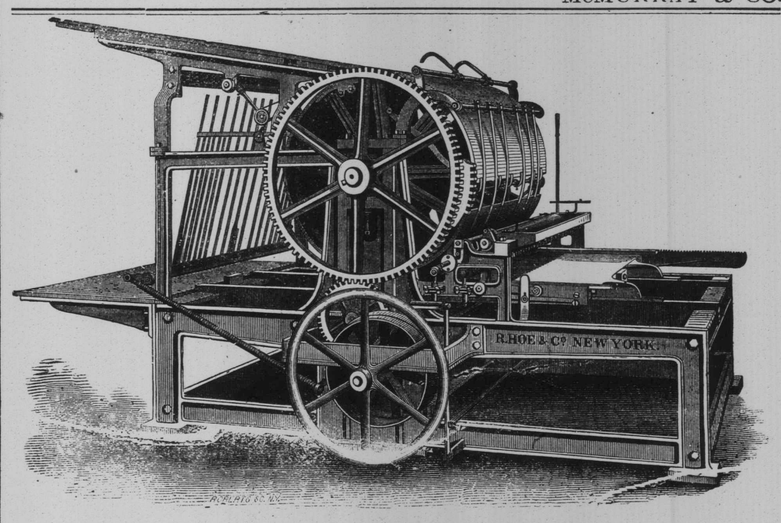

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