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Our fine Blend Tea, for the day only, 20c lb.  
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There have been placed upon the market several cheap reprints of an obsolete edition of "Webster's Dictionary." They are being offered under various names at a low price.

By dry goods dealers, grocers, agents, etc., and in a few instances as a premium for subscriptions to papers.

Announcements of these comparatively worthless reprints are very misleading; for instance, they are advertised to be the substantial equivalent of a higher-priced book, when in reality, so far as we know and believe, they are all from A to Z.

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The supplement of 10,000 so-called "new words," which some of these books are advertised to contain, was compiled by a gentleman who died over forty years ago, and was published before his death. Other minor additions are probably of more or less value.

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### ELECTRICAL STORMS.

THEY ARE THE MOST PECULIAR OF THE MOUNTAIN PHENOMENA.

There is No Lightning, Thunder or Rain, but They Make One's Hair Really Stand on End and the Stones Crack Under the Feet.

Perhaps the most peculiar of the mountain phenomena are the so-called electrical storms. There is no precipitation, no lightning, no thunder and usually no wind, nothing to be heard and nothing to be seen except the gathering clouds. But much may be felt. Everything is charged with the electric fluid. The earth, the air, the very stones and trees and even human beings are full of it.

A mining engineer visiting a tunnel located on a mountain side at an elevation of 13,200 feet describes his sensations during one of these storms. All alone he was climbing up the trail to the tunnel, where he wished to examine a vein of ore. Great black clouds began to gather on the horizon and were soon rolling about the mountain side below him. A calm prevailed; then an unnatural stillness seemed to be in the air. Steadily the clouds rolled up the mountain side like a flood of black water. The stones as he stepped on them began to crack and snap like dry wood in a fire. Realizing these unusual conditions, he hurried to the sheltering tunnel above him. His hair felt as if a swarm of flies had settled in it. When he tried to brush them away, he found each hair standing almost straight. The stroking of his hair increased the peculiar sensations he experienced, and, tingling from head to foot, the now thoroughly frightened man ran into the tunnel.

No sooner had he passed the entrance than the peculiar sensations ceased. After resting awhile he went to the opening and discovered himself entirely surrounded by clouds so black and dense that he could scarcely see five feet away, although the hour was not far from noon. Stepping outside to investigate, he received a shock that sent him reeling back into the tunnel, where he remained for over an hour before the storm passed.

Such electrical storms seem to be formed in strata. If a human being should make such connection as to draw the charge from one of the layers, he would be incinerated. This accident, however, has never been known to occur. Electrical storms prevail throughout the mountain region, but the severest storms of this nature are met only at the great altitudes.

With all the severity of electrical storms and thunder showers, it is a fact that human beings are seldom struck by lightning in the mountains. Deaths, however, have been known to occur. The cause is much more frequent on the plains bordering the ranges than in the mountains themselves.

The most destructive form of mountain storm is the so-called cloudburst, when the rippling brook suddenly becomes a roaring river, carrying death and destruction in its path. The noise made by a cloudburst has no parallel. Above the rumble and roar of a mass of rushing water is heard a grinding, grinding sound of falling trees, of slipping earth and of rolling boulders, while the banks of the stream far above the danger line tremble as if in an earthquake. The senses are numbed by the awful catapasm, and the number to the spectator, although he is on the high banks and out of actual danger, as if the very foundations of the earth had burst and judgment day was come. The flood tosses about, mighty trees and rocks as if they were straws, the banks of the stream seem to dissolve before his eyes, and a feeling of awe at the irresistible power of nature steals over the observer. Once witnessed, a cloudburst is never forgotten.

In point of fact, however, there is no such thing as the bursting of a cloud. The term "cloudburst" is a convenient expression by which the result of a very heavy rain is designated. Nearly all the surface of the earth in the mountain region is made up of either of rocks or adobe soil. The latter in most cases has never been broken to cultivation and is almost impervious to a sudden heavy downpour of rain. The consequence is that the mountains are cut up with arroyos, gullies and water courses and in the course of unnumbered ages into mighty canyons which astound the tourist.

In an unusually heavy rainfall the great mass of water spread over a large area, instead of sinking into the ground, is quickly accumulated in the beds of the streams, which rise many feet in a short time. When this accumulation is rapid enough and the "lay of the land" is just right, the water rushes down the bed of the stream in a solid wall and is called a cloudburst. The same precipitousness in an open country or in one in which the soil has been broken up by cultivation would be called a heavy rainfall and would do no damage unless continued long enough for the streams to overflow their banks and flood the country.

One of the most destructive storms of this nature, so far as its manifold consequences are concerned, took place in the spring of 1864, when a cloudburst occurred in the headwaters of Cherry creek. This is a small stream, dry most of the year, but notorious for its eccentricities. It flows through Denver and empties into the Platte river within the confines of the city. Just at nightfall the water swept down this dry creek in a wall said to have been ten feet in height, carrying everything before it. Many people were drowned, and many buildings were washed away. All night long the creek flowed bankful of water that was thick with wreckage. People were rescued during the night on rafts and improvised boats.

The most serious loss was the city hall, which was swept away by the water, together with all the records on file there. These records included not only those of the state and city, but also the United States land filings. The flood was followed by an era of land jumpings, and a good many of the present fortunes in Denver date from that event. The safe of the city hall was never found, although some relics of the flood, including a portion of the press of The Rocky Mountain News, are now in the rooms of the State Historical society. T. C. Knowles in Ainslee's Magazine.

**The Robin.**  
Each infant robin, it is estimated, requires for its proper maintenance about 14 inches of tender angleworm every day. As a robin family averages four, the mother is obliged to provide 56 inches of worm daily. Considering the difficulties and dangers of getting worms, these statistics throw an interesting light on the industry and courage of the mother robin.

### ALL HONOR TO PARSLEY.

Curious Folklore and History Concerning This Common Herb.

Some quaint "ideas have hovered around that familiar garden herb and dish-servant, parsley. In England, Devonshire folk declare that parsley must never be transplanted or great evil will follow. Suffolk people say it will not come up double unless sown on Good Friday; a notion that experiments might surely soon have disproved—while ancient dwellers in Hampshire steadfastly refuse to give any parsley away. Ask them for roses, lilies, fruit or rare vegetables, and baskets will be gladly bestowed on you, but request a few sprigs of parsley and you will be told, with a solemn shaking of heads, "No, we never pick parsley for anyone, unless it's laid for!"

The great historian Plutarch relates an interesting anecdote on the subject of this herb. Timoleon was leading an army against the Carthaginians. "But, as he was ascending a hill from the top of which the enemy's camp and all their vast forces would be in sight he met some maids laden with parsley; and his men took it into their heads that it was a bad omen because we usually crown the sepulchre with parsley, and then comes the proverb with regard to one that is dangerously ill, 'Such a one has need of nothing but parsley.' To deliver them from this superstition and to remove the panic, Timoleon ordered the troops to halt, and making a speech to his men, he said: 'I observed among other things that crowns were brought them before the victory, and offered themselves of their own accord. For the Corinthians from all antiquity have looked upon a wreath of parsley as sacred, crowning the victors with it at the Isthmian games.' The general then crowned himself and all his officers with parsley wreaths, and led his men to battle, their fears conquered; the result being a decisive victory.

### Strange Applications.

The Salvation Army has in London a bureau of information where ladies may obtain servants and those in need of employment find work. It has been extraordinarily successful. During the first year thirteen hundred employers found servants, and a thousand girls applied for work.

Strange applications come to the office.

One lady recommended her departing servant as "clean, tidy, honest, sober, truthful and a good worker."

Wondering why maid and mistress should part upon such conditions the bureau found that a terrible bad temper was the cause of the separation.

"But strangely enough," said the chief, "it happened that a lady had just applied to us for a servant with a bad temper, believing that such girls make the cleanest handmaids."

"So we are able to meet every requirement."

Some of the wants sent to the bureau are of a peculiar nature and oddly expressed.

"Kindly send me a girl who is a vegetarian," writes one lady. "or who is willing to become one."

"A red-hot Christian, but not too old."

"Not taller than five feet two. A girl who does not talk loud. She must not sing or laugh loud."

Neither are the servants who apply easy to please.

"Get a place with two quiet, elderly people," says one. "I like to be alone."

"I am a good singer and a good speaker, and I want a good place."

"I have had a good education, and can play the piano."

"Please get my daughter a place, as she is unmanageable at home and has an awful temper," asked a fond and candid parent.

### His Intimate Friends.

Father Darcy, an Irish wit, was once invited by a man who was known as an ignorant braggart to visit a new and beautiful house.

The person, who had become wealthy suddenly, had bought. With more than his usual pomposity the host dragged the priest over the place.

Everything that he owned. Finally they reached the immense library, where there were thousands of volumes, all splendid in binding.

The host sank into the great leather-covered chair with a sigh of contentment and exclaimed:

"But, after all, father, what is all this luxury compared with my favorite here?" The other rooms maybe give pleasure to my wife and daughter, but this is my place—right here among these books, which are my friends. And these here on the desk—pointing to a score of fine volumes—"what I may call my most intimate friends."

Father Darcy got up and examined one of them, when a broad grin spread over his good-natured face.

"Well, it's glad I am to see that you never cut your intimate friends!" he exclaimed.

### Royal Women as Colonels.

The present German Emperor instituted the custom of appointing foreign royal women colonels of German regiments. He named his grandmother, Queen Victoria, colonel of the First Prussian Dragoon Guards, and since then a large number of sovereign women have been similarly honored in the Netherlands.

### The Ostrich a Good Fighter.

Although the ostrich has powerful legs and can kick like a mule, his limbs are very brittle and are easily broken. He has two toes on each foot, one being armed with a horn, which he uses as his principal weapon of warfare. When an unarmed man is attacked by one of these birds the chances are very much against the man unless he can climb a tree or jump over a five-foot wall.

### A REMINISCENCE OF CAWNPORE.

Awfulness of Having to Kill One's Own Wife and Children.

At this distance and in this environment, writes a London correspondent, it seems that the nations of the earth have permitted all these awful things in China. It may not be so, but it looks very much like a consultation over a dying man, with Russia as the family physician. Japan as the surgeon who could save, and the rest of us a lot of blithering, bungling country doctors, letting him die while we discuss the etiquette of it all.

It looks as if the only hope for the women and children in Pekin is that their men will shoot them down when the worst comes to the worst. This thought recalls a ghastly experience I had at an evening reception here recently. I was discussing the situation in China with a white-haired, sea-worn, soldierly-looking man, and I said I didn't see necessary and human as the act would be under some circumstances, how it could be possible for the men in the legation to shoot their wives and daughters. The man was silent for a moment, his face rigid and white, his eyes gazing into space before him.

"I had to shoot mine in the Indian mutiny," he said, quietly. I wanted to withdraw at once, and there, but only groaned and walked away. Later, a friend who knew him told me the story. He was a major in the army, and during that awful Cawnpore affair he and his family were captured. He shot his wife and two daughters as they were being dragged away by those black brutes; after he had been imprisoned and tortured he escaped, to live a nightmare life.

We all recall the Cawnpore story, and people are retelling it now just as if there were not enough present horror—how those women, the wives and daughters of English officers and officials, had their breasts cut off and were thrown into pits to die of their wounds and of starvation.

And all this, like these later horrors in China, in the name of religion. Yet Buddha and Mohammed, like Christ, came to the world as apostles of peace and good will to mankind, surely the real living God of humanity now and then shuts his light from the soul of His human images.

### Spare Time.

A party of ladies and gentlemen were shown through a large carpet establishment in Brooklyn not long ago. They were permitted to look into every nook and corner of the building except one. At the bottom of the stairway leading to the top floor the came upon a closed door, upon which were the words, "Positively no Admittance."

The curiosity of the ladies was awakened at once. "What is up there?" inquired one, eagerly. "That is our workshop," explained the representative of the firm. "We have one hundred and fifty women on that floor sewing carpets."

"Oh, I should like to see them at work," said the fair questioner, with a playfully beseeching look.

"I am sorry that I cannot take you up there," replied the firm's representative, "but the rules are very strict. Really, there is nothing worth looking at, and there are no trade secrets there. The reason why the firm interdicts visitors is because the presence of strangers causes every sewing-woman to look up, and takes her attention off her work for one or five minutes. Suppose every woman loses an average of two minutes with one hundred and fifty women that means a loss to the firm of 300 minutes, or five hours of time. That is a much longer time than we are working under a full head of steam, as we are now."

The Apple as Food.

Dr. Wilson says that the apple is such common fruit that few persons are familiar with its remarkable and efficacious medicinal properties. Everybody ought to know that the very best thing they can do is to eat an apple just before going to bed, because the apple is excellent brain food, because it has more phosphoric acid, in an easily digested shape, than any other fruit known. It excites the action of the liver, promotes sound and healthy sleep, and disinfects the system. It also regulates the surplus acids of the stomach, helps the kidney secretion, and prevents calculus growth while it obviates indigestion, and is one of the best preventatives of disease of the throat. Next to lemon and orange it is also the best antidote for the craving of persons addicted to the alcohol and opium habit.

### Coffee, Alcohol and Tobacco.

By a busy physician it is stated that at least two-thirds of his practice comes from excessive use of coffee. The excessive use of tea and coffee, as well as the use of alcoholic liquors, often almost wholly obliterates the sense of taste. The same may be said with regard to the sense of smell with snuff takers.

Numerous observations prove that the use of tobacco is a potent cause of disease of the eye. Total blindness from degeneration of the optic nerve has been traced to this cause. Recent observations point to tobacco and alcohol as the great cause of color blindness, and this accounts for the fact that it is much more common in men than in women.

### Art of Sweeping Carpets.

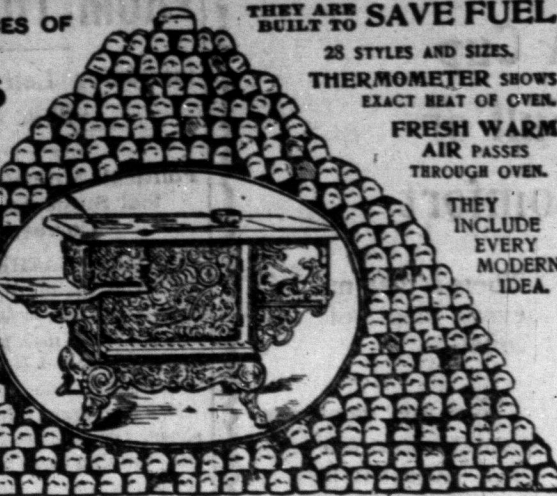
Many a carpet is prematurely worn out by injudicious sweeping. Still carpet lifetimes and the stout arms of inexperienced maids are their destruction. In sweeping thick-piled carpets, such as Axminster and Turkey carpets, the maid should be instructed to brush along the way of the broom, by so doing they may be kept clean for years, but if the broom is used in a different way, all the dust will enter the carpet and spoil it. Without the greatest care and some little knowledge, furniture and paint, by being knocked about, by the broom, may soon receive an irreparable amount of damage.

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BAKED 212 LOAVES IN 6 1/2 HOURS.



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Farmers should read carefully this testimonial—It will tell them what the operators of the

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think of it. These statements are from men who have used it a whole season and know what they are talking about.

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DEAR SIR: Having purchased one of your Columbia Corn Harvesters last season will say, they are the best we have ever seen at work, having seen all the leading machines working in the field. We cut over one hundred acres last season. Machine runs easy, no side draft, knocks off very few ears, ties all and makes a perfect bundle. Works perfect in either planted or drilled corn. Cut drilled corn over twelve feet tall after it had been killed by frost and knocked down flat by storm, picked it up and done good work. It can be easily adjusted to make any size sheaf, and the drive wheel is so made that it will work in very soft ground.

Yours truly,

CHARLES BELLEMY, W. F. BELLEMY.

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