

length of time from the same point. The country will in all probability suffer, however, from sharp north-easterly blasts with frosts during the summer months. ED. NULL.]

Not so.

"Vennor has the rheumatism."—*Express*, *List*, Pa.

"Vennor has rheumatism. Taken an overdose of his own weather, very likely."—*New Haven Register*.

"Vennor has rheumatism, and predicts dirty weather and squalls."—*Cincinnati Commercial*.

"Vennor has the rheumatism. We congratulate him upon the new acquisition. It will be a great help in scenting out a coming storm."—*Boston Transcript*.

[No, my dear friends; he has had nothing of the sort, even after having slept on the ground for fifteen summers. But on the other hand a little too much indoor work for some months past, and a shade of over-work, has caused slight indisposition.—Ed.]

There is a wild pigeon roost near Sparta, Wis., half a mile wide and ten miles long. The birds number millions. Sportsmen have already treed thousands.

For Vennor's Bulletin.

The Aborigines in Durham Valley, Pa.

By E. P. SAUBACH.

This valley bordering on the Delaware River, in the eastern part of Pennsylvania, with its fertile lands, numerous springs, and its creek abounding with fish, seems to have been a favorite residence and resting place of the red man. The remains of several villages, besides a large amount of relics, have been found scattered through the valley. The latest lot of relics has been found by the writer along the south-east side of a range of hills which skirt the north-western border of the valley; consisting of arrow-heads, spear-heads, knives, net-sinks, polishers, hammers and hoes, all on an area of two or three acres. The net-sinks, or *poggamoggons*, as called by the Shoshone Indians at the present day, are most frequently met with on this spot, their abundance demonstrating the fact that they must have been manufactured here. The grooves around them are mostly simply chipped, while some are so smooth that they must have been ground out. The uses of these stones is still a matter of conjecture. Though called *net-sinks* it is doubted by most writers whether the American Indian ever used a net in fishing, still we have from the best authority that nets were in existence thousands of years ago. They would have formed a very efficient weapon, fastened to the end of a stout stick several feet in length, as used at the present day by the Shoshone Indians of the United States and the Indians of Patagonia. The circular hammers found here have a peculiarity in their weighing at least three times as much as the hammers found among arrow chippings, making it possible that a heavier hammer was required for net-sinks than for arrows. The writer also found several hoes or shovels at this place. The prettiest specimen measures about nine inches in length, three inches in width at the top and about six at the base, and curves backward about an inch in the middle. The presence of the relics in such abundance at this spot seems to indicate that either this was once a temporary village or the residence of an implement maker, of which each village had one living either within the village or close by. About half a mile to the south-east of this place are the Jasper quarries of the red men, where they would, according to tradition, quarry from the earth their supply of Jasper. The excavations can still be seen, though almost extinguished by nature.

People Who Freeze You.

There are human beings who are strangely endowed with the gift of freezing others at sight. Some of these have the faculty of reducing the temperature of a room to freezing point by their very entrance and by their clammy way in which they take position and begin the chilling exercise which they are pleased to call by the name of conversation. By the time such persons have cast a formal glance on each of the company assembled it seems as if cold perspiration was drizzling down from the ceiling and congealing as it drizzled. It is not necessary for persons of this kind to say much. Their looks speak louder than their words. There are disagreeable women who, by the severe way in which they handle their knitting or rattle their newspaper, make all who are within reach of their unlovely countenances feel as if hail-stones the size of goose eggs were suddenly slipped down the backs of their necks. An evening spent in the company of one of these freezers is enough to inspire one with a desire to go to Greenland's Ice Mountains in order to get warm. When the disagreeable person retires from the circle which has been the victim of this chilling influence it is as when the spring sunshine unlocks the ice-bound streams. There is a feeling of relief in the heart of each person as the voluntary sigh which betokens the coming of liberty rises from each breast. When the thaw begins the victims of the freezer recover animation as did the corpses on the Ancient Mariner's ship. If a chesery and breezy person happens to enter the room as the freezer departs tongues are unloosed, rigid countenances are unlocked and a flow of happy interchange of sentiment takes the place of the dreadful gloom which sat as ghostly icebergs in every part of the room. Right welcome is the departure of one who bears this chilling influence to congenial solitudes of dismal woe. Better is the heat of summer with swarms of flies and myriads of mosquitoes than the chilly coolness which is brought about by the presence of the disagreeable person.

The Weather Service.

Frequent confusion of the Washington and Toronto bulletins.

What "Lower Lake Region" means.

Midnight bulletins to be issued from Toronto.

[From "The Globe."]

Excepting for a short period last summer, the Canadian Meteorological Office at Toronto has not yet issued midnight predictions, though in cases of great storms expected they have taken care as far as possible to warn our lake and gulf ports in the middle of the night. The American service publishes three predictions every day on observations made throughout the United States and Canada at 7 a.m., 3 p.m., 11 p.m., absolute (not local) time. These predictions are issued a few hours after the time of observation, and it is the midnight one which appears in *The Globe* every morning. The fact does not appear to be universally known amongst those who consult the daily predictions and hence occasionally our weather office is blamed for making mistakes which it has not made. In one instance recently a man at the Humber, depending upon the midnight pre-

diction from Washington, which did not indicate rough weather, put out a hundred dollars worth of net in the lake, and lost it. If he had seen the Canadian predictions he would have expected a gale, and so have saved his property.

Occasionally, when both offices issue predictions at the same time, the American prediction omits important features of the weather which the Canadian office gives, and is otherwise inferior. Part of the island was recently washed away, although the Washington bulletin gave little indication of any severe wind. The Washington prediction, issued about 10 a.m., on the 10th, the morning before the storm, read:—"For the lake region threatening weather and rain or falling snow, followed by rising of barometer, east to south winds shifting to westerly, slight rise followed by falling temperature."

The Toronto prediction issued at the same time read as follows:—"Lower lake region—Winds increasing to a gale from the north-east and south-east, fair to cloudy mild weather, followed by rain to-night." This latter prediction was fully verified; the other, which as it included not only the lower lakes, but the upper lakes as well, was very indefinitely worded, and even then proved incorrect, and no westerly winds were reported in the whole lake district at the observation, twenty-four hours afterwards, except at two points.

A mistake of this kind is not of course of very frequent occurrence, but it is satisfactory to know that the Canadian service makes still fewer mistakes than the American (*Ed. Bull.*)

In many instances, however, when people are misled no mistake has been made by either office. The explanation is that the Lower Lake region in the American predictions extends along the south side of the lakes and St. Lawrence from the eastern boundary of Indiana to Lake Champlain, while the Lower Lake region of the Canadian bulletin comprises only the Peninsula of Ontario, and the country north of Lake Ontario as far east as Belleville. From Belleville eastward the district is known as the St. Lawrence Valley.

Now while the general features of the weather on the two sides of the lakes are necessarily much alike in nearly every instance, there are times when even opposite conditions may prevail. A cyclone centre moving directly along Lake Erie and Ontario, might draw in from the south decidedly warm winds over the "American Lower Lake region," and cold winds from the north over the heart of the Canadian district. In spring great differences in the degree of temperature between different parts of the lake region are very noticeable. The great lakes are chilled by the winter's cold, and have recovered but little of their usual warmth, a southerly wind, therefore, though bearing heat to the south side of the lakes, might on the north side be comparatively cool. A Washington prediction of warm weather under such circumstances might be looked upon by a resident of the north shore as unfulfilled.

The Canadian weather service is now about to begin midnight predictions, which will appear in the morning papers. This advance has long been delayed by lack of means, but a slight increase has recently been made in the service, which will permit of midnight bulletins being issued and distributed to a certain extent.

[At Montreal, Ottawa, and Quebec we can never be sure, whether we are to experience the Lower Lake, Upper or Lower St. Lawrence Weather as published in the Toronto bulletin; but our experience has been that the Washington 1 a.m. "probabilities" is almost invariably correct for our Station.—Ed.]