

sealekin jackets, which of course must be brought out if December was warm as June. I find a thin overcoat quite enough for any time and during the middle of the day prefer to wear it over one arm.

I may be up in the mountain district again for a longer visit and will perhaps drop you a line with some description of the scenery and people of the mining camps.

M. P. COCHRANE.

Colorado Springs, Col., Jan. 1st, 1882.

CLIMATE OF BURMAH.

The following sketch of the climate of Burmah is taken from memoirs of Rev. Edward Kelley, missionary to the Shans of Burmah:—

We have two seasons, the wet and the dry. In regard to heat and cold, it is as follows: We are in the tropics here, but north of the equator. Consequently, as at home, the coldest weather is from December to January, and the sun is hottest from June to August. Were there nothing to interfere with its heat, the summer months would be terrible indeed; but, by a wise provision of Providence, the summer is also the rainy season. In March there are usually a few light showers. With this exception, I suppose there is rarely, if ever, a year in which a single shower of rain falls in Burmah from November to May. In May the rain begins; occasional at first, but by the end of June settling down into steady rainy weather. Then, for some three months, it rains nearly every day. Sometimes it pours hard all day; again, there is a fine drizzle, lasting the day; oftener, there is a brisk shower at morning or evening, or two or three times during the day, and the rest of the day it is cloudy.

Occasionally we have a day free from rain. Some years much more rain falls than at others. Books, clothes, etc., mould. Needles, pocket knives, watches, etc., are injured or spoiled by rust. Articles made of leather very soon get covered with mould.

After the three months of steady rain, again there is about a month of rather unsettled weather, and then the rain is done for the year. At home, in the midst of the dog-days, if an east wind sets in for three or four days, it becomes rather chilly. So, here, what would otherwise be fearfully hot becomes quite cool and comfortable. If the sun does get out for a day or two, it comes down with great power; and those who have not been long in Burmah again sigh for rain.

The hot weather here is therefore just before and after the rains,—March and April before, and most of October and November after; but the months before the rain are the hottest.

The ground is parched by the long drought. The vegetation is dry and dusty, and the air is smoky. A burning heat comes down from the sun, and a stifling heat comes up from the ground. This lasts, or rather increases, until the beginning of the rains, the first showers of which cool off the heated ground, clear the air, and give new life to the vegetation. The beginning of the rain is the time for planting and sowing.

During the dry season, the northeast monsoon or trade wind, prevails; i. e., there is a light, steady breeze from the northeast. During the rains, the southwest monsoon prevails; i. e., there is a regular southwest wind. This wind is stronger than the northeast trade wind. At the beginning and at the close of the rains, the wind is variable. At these times also there are severe storms, accompanied by thunder and lightning. This is the only period of unsafe navigation; for at this time those revolving hurricanes called cyclones sweep the ocean.

—We are printing the moon chart on a separate card with explanation on back, and will shortly send one to every subscriber.

GO TO FLORIDA.

Dr. Livezey, of Pennsylvania, writes that he is more and more pleased with the climate of Florida, winter after winter. In a period of some six weeks there have been but two heavy showers, one sun shower, no fogs or dampness,—nothing but good growing weather, pure dry atmosphere, and, as a whole, charming weather. [Yot forgot to make mention of the mosquitoes, Dr. L. Are they tame and musical!]

Flooded Florida.

Letters from Florida represent that locality as flooded with Northern sightseers and tourists. A letter dated March 14, Putnam House, Palatka, says: "Florida is packed. I had no idea that our country could furnish such an enormous population of winter tourists (not invalids), as one sees in this section. Jacksonville was a crush—this place is a sight. People are lodged blocks away from the hotel in third-story rooms, take their meals at the hotel, and pay four dollars per day. The parlour is converted into a dining-room to accommodate the rush, and it is useless to start for any new place without first telegraphing for rooms.

DEVOE'S WEATHER.

Mr. Vennor predicts an open Winter, but he does not say where. I claim that the temperature is controlled by the movements of storms. This season the storms will move from the south toward the north, drifting eastward. At present they are over the Mississippi Valley. They will gradually move eastward, and the people on the west side of that river must prepare for a very severe Winter and deep snows.

November will enter like a Summer's month. About the 3rd it will suddenly change to wintry weather, and there will be a cold blast for several days. After the 10th it will grow mild till the 17th and 18th. The last of the month will be more like Spring than Fall. There will be no skating on Thanksgiving Day.

The rainfall in this section will be light until the 21st. It will remain unusually mild along this coast, from North Carolina to Halifax, until February. The storms will be accompanied by south-east winds. There will be very rough weather in Canada, with heavy rains, until the middle of December, when the rains will turn to snow.

As the storm belt moves eastward it will be followed by heavy snows and very cold weather. I do not think it will reach New York city until February.

A. J. DEVOE, Meteorologist.

Hackensack, October 27.

AN UNHEALTHY WINTER.

There are all the indications of it. The weather will be uncertain; we shall have no severe frost, but much damp, rainy weather, exceedingly fertile in creating miasma in the air and propagating malaria. Throat diseases are sure to prevail, perhaps more so than those of the chest, as the organs of the throat are more open to attack by the damp air. Nervous diseases will also prevail, as the low, dull temperature will lessen the vitality still more in those who already possess little. Loss of appetite will trouble us, and digestion is not improved by damp, soft airs. Malarial fevers will attack crowded houses; so small-pox and all blood diseases will find a fertile soil to grow in. These damp, low winters, though perhaps easier to bear than the sharp, frosty, cold seasons, are generally fruitful in disease. It will require great care to keep out of it. What are the safeguards against disease? Thorough ventilation in house, proper clothing for head, throat, and feet; good exercise, nutritious living, and all avoiding of taking cold; immediate remedial action when this has taken

place. In such winters as these we must not allow colds to grow upon us, as they bring other troubles in the rear. One great preventive of taking cold is to never remain in wet clothes, and to use outside wraps that will absorb wet and not allow it to penetrate. Above all, avoid wet feet, also to keep the feet warm, and if cold has been caught to use mustard and hot water for the feet at once. The foot bath must not be higher than the ankles.—*Food and Health.*

AN ICE TIME.

Snow blockades have been infrequent during the present winter, and in fact it is doubtful if such a thing has occurred in Canada since the opening of the season. But all the way from the North West now comes the news of a train blocked in on the St. P., M., and M. railway. A party of Torontonians on their way to Winnipeg were the sufferers. They left St. Paul at 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening, the 15th inst., and reached Euclid the following day about noon. After leaving the town the stops became frequent, and by 3 o'clock p.m. a magnificent stretch of 30 miles had been covered. The passengers became inquisitive, but the more

THEIR ANXIETY DEVELOPED

the more uncommunicative and reserved grew the usually affable conductor, and the more than ordinarily silent the generally mysterious brakesman. The former no longer watched the passengers dozing into sleep, that when he had, at last, sunk into slumber, he might pleasantly arouse him by a demand for his ticket, and the latter forbore to startle the traveller by bursting open the car-door and wildly yelling the name of the approaching station. At length the truth was learned. Snow banks were erecting themselves on the line of the railway to resist the advance to Winnipeg. Finally, the locomotive steamed away by itself, and the train was left standing in the midst of the prairie. Then it was that the passengers showed themselves worthy of the occasion. They converted one of the cars into a concert hall, and several ladies and gentlemen having volunteered their services, an excellent musical and literary entertainment was given. The only drawback experienced was caused by the eccentricities developed by the train during the performance. It would slowly back up for a few hundred yards, and then dash at full speed against a snowbank. But the elements and the weather came out of the struggle as victors, for the blockade was complete. After a very unpleasant night spent on the prairie, it was decided to return to Euclid, and the determination was carried out.

BUT WHAT A NIGHT HAD BEEN PASSED.

It was fearfully cold, and no one found it possible to sleep. All the blankets were taken from the one Pullman car attached, and in these the ladies tried in vain to hide themselves from the weather. Hunger also was added to the discomforts, so that when the party reached Euclid they almost cleaned it out of provisions. On Friday morning more locomotives were obtained, and with their assistance the intervening snow banks were forced, and Winnipeg was reached at half-past three on Saturday morning. During the latter part of the journey a genius—and where was there a party of Torontonians without a genius among them?—proposed to play "the Guitau game" to while away the time. The proposal was adopted, and the trial was re-enacted, and all the principal personages who figured in that affair were personated by several of the passengers. The travellers enjoyed the "play" immensely, but the train men say they never carried such a "tough gang" over the road.—*Mail.*