

centre with the points equidistant from each other. Very perfect snowflakes that fall in still air will resemble these six radiating lines. To make this likeness complete put the lines upon the blackboard and feather them in artistic shapes making the tracings proceed from each line outward, nearly at right angles.

The lightness and regularity of snow crystals depend on the height of the atmosphere from which they descend as well as from the stillness of it. These conditions prevail in high latitudes. In temperate climates the winds and moister portions of the atmosphere through which the snowflakes fall tend to melt them or break them up, so that they are very seldom found in regular six-sided figures.

Very fine, lightly fallen snow occupies from ten to twenty times as much space as rain water. Gather up a tumbler or tin dipper full of this snow and let it melt in a warm room, and measure.

The boys and girls of British Columbia, the Pacific maritime province of the Dominion, are rarely out of sight of snow all the year round. Accumulated on the mountain tops it serves to feed, by its gradual melting, streams of running water which flow down the mountain sides through gorges or valleys. The city of Vancouver gets a fine supply of cool, delicious water all the year round through the Catalano Gorge, the upper extremity of which is in contact with the eternal snows of one of the high mountains north of that city. But in winter little or no snow falls in either of the cities of Vancouver or Victoria, where perpetual summer reigns and flowers bloom for nearly ten months of the year. But it is doubtful if the boys and girls there have as good a time as ours during the winters along the Atlantic coast where there is usually plenty of snow and ice for coasting skating, sleighing and other winter sports. Why is this when the cities of Vancouver and Victoria lie several degrees farther north than St. John and Halifax?

In severe climates the snow fall protects the plants from the severe frost. Last summer in Yarmouth a lady pointed to her beautiful flower garden and said to the writer: "A few months ago there was six feet of snow lying upon those treasures of mine protecting them from the cold winds and frost." And more—the particles of snow as they fall through the air and lay upon the ground gathered the particles of dust, and when the snow melted they washed all the dust into the soil to fertilize it.

English Folk-Lore for February.

February fill dyke, be it black or be it white,
But if it be white it's the better to like.

All the months of the year curse a fair Februeer.

A February Spring is not worth a pin.

If Candlemas Day (*Feb. 2*) be fair and bright,
Winter will have another flight;
But if Candlemas Day be clouds and rain,
Winter is gone and will not come again.

If February brings no rain,
'Tis neither good for grass nor grain.

Jack Frost.

Jack Frost is the jolliest Jack that I know;
He hails from the place where the icicles grow,
We can ride in a sleigh
Or go skating all day (Saturday)
When, with nippers and freezers, he cometh our way.

Though he tingles my fingers and pinches my nose,
And makes funny cramps in the ends of my toes,

I say, "Jack, come ahead;
I have skates and a sled,
And though you may sting me, my sports you have led."
—Selected and Adapted.

"I am at a loss to discover why trustees and teachers cannot and do not unite to beautify the school grounds, and to make the school premises as attractive as any in the section. Why should not the pupils and teacher unite to make the schoolroom beautiful, homelike, and cheerful? The influence of surroundings is a factor not to be neglected in education. The softening of manners, the humanising of affections, the curbing of destructive propensities, the self-respect engendered by congenial and pleasant environment, are all permanent in their effects and follow the pupil throughout his career."—Inspector Allan Embury, Peel, Ont.

[The winter is the time for trustees and teachers to unite and make their plans for cheerful and tidy school surroundings.—Editor.]

Stop means to cease from action. It does not mean to remain, to stay. We should not say *He stops at the hotel, but He stays (or lives) at the hotel.*

Fill the blanks with *stop, stay, or stayed*.

1. We——at the spring to drink, but did not——long.
2. She——at my house two days.
3. ——when you reach the corner.
4. I will——with you as long as you need me.
5. Do not——away long.