CONVERSAZIONE.

Hot Climates.

Which is the very hottest region of the globe is disputed warmly sometimes by travelers. The thermometer will not decide, in the sense we refer to, because local conditions have such great influence on our feeling of misery. Those who have been quartered at Aden would not allow that any spot on this upper earth can be more awful than that. But unfortunates who have dwelt in Scinde mock the terrors of Aden. Visitors to Bushire, in the Persian Gulf, talk lightly of Scinde; and Russians assert that there are districts in Central Asia more terrible than all three. One would incline to believe them also, if only it were proved possible to live through a summer in heat more cruel than that of Scinde, for instance. Americans also put in a claim for their Great Desert. One thing is assured—that the famous Sahara does not approach any of those mentioned. In some parts of Scinde necessity taught the inhabitants ages ago to invent an apparatus for cooling their rooms, which we were glad to adopt under the name "windsail."

As for the actual heat in the severest climates persons otherwise trustworthy will give astounding reports. We have heard responsible officers of the old India flotilla avouch that they have seen the glass register 200 degrees in the sun at Bushire. It was a long time ago, however, and there lies their excuse. Perhaps 180 degrees has been recorded for a brief space under peculiar circumstances. But when 160 degrees is passed every fraction becomes horribly perceptible. Ten degrees above this is not uncommon. The coolest place to be found at Shikarpur sometimes has been 140 degrees. But 120 in the shade may be regarded as the temperature of the very hottest climates in the world—when no wind blows. Fancy that as the minimum for 48 hours at a stretch. At Sukkur—the year round, mark!—residents endure a minimum of 97 degrees; happily there are very few whites among them. But this is in a time when no wind blows, and winds are the rule from March to July. There is the Suk, which rises, as scientific persons allege, in the Kachi Desert; but ordinary mortals will not be persuaded that it has its origin in the upper world. All life withers before it. But there is worse. The Bad-i-simoon kills outright everything it encounters; not only that—it burns up tissue and cartilage, so that the limbs can be pulled asunder when the storm has passed by. Of course, it is rare and brief and very narrow in its track. From the roof of his house in Jacobabad an officer watched it sweep by, destroying actually everything it met; but he, 50 yards from the edge, felt only a warmer glow than usual.—[London Standard.

Three Classes of Anarchists.

[From Harper's Weekly.]

The sober fact is that when we look at the Anarchists individually, we can distinguish several classes of them. One class consists of young men with some natural brightness, but little education, who consider themselves too good for steady work, who first started as Socialists, and who then were carried away by the ambition to distinguish themselves by being more radical than the rest, by proposing more violent "remedies" for existing evils, and by running their half-baked theories to more absurd extremes. There are some sincere fanatics among these who will do atrocious things with a certain consciousness of self-sacrifice, and also meet death with composure. But the character of their dementia makes them no less dangerous nor less criminal, either in the eyes of the law or those of common-sense. Another class consists of unthinking brawlers, who have nothing in their heads but a rich vocabulary of catchwords expressing their detestation of the "capital beast," and their eagerness for "revenge." Herr Most is a fair representative of this class. He has the reputation of being personally a coward, but nobody pronounces the bloodthirsty formulas of his creed with greater fluency and a richer affluence of language. There are, however, Anarchists more radical than he, who set him contemptuously down as a "reactionary."

A third class consists of men who, under the guise of avenging the wrongs of the poor or of vindicating the rights of labor, commit any crime that promises to satisfy their needs or suit their tastes. They are well represented by the Frenchman Ravachol, who recently met his fate on the scaffold. They are simply common robbers and assassins. But in the same measure as the other classes of Anarchists use the same means to effect their "social revolution," they will have practically to be treated as belonging to the same category.

Locality an Object.

The Times once contained an advertisement for an assistant "capable of teaching the classics as far as Homer and Virgil." Among the answers received was this delightful specimen:

"Sir,—With reference to the advertisement which was inserted in the Times newspaper a few days since respecting a school assistant, I beg to state that I should be happy to fill that situation; but as most of my friends reside in London, and not knowing how far Homer and Virgil is from town, I beg to state that I should not like to engage to teach classics farther than Hammersmith or Turnham Green, or, at the very utmost distance, farther than Brentford. Awaiting your reply, I am, sir," etc.—[London Tit Bits.

A Cow on the Track.

"I tell you a cow on the track is a pretty serious thing, more serious than most people suspect." The speaker was an old railroad man, and he was recalling reminiscences of far away days. "Many years ago when I was firing on an engine running in the New England States, we received orders one day to take out the passenger train for N——. Things went swimmingly, and we were making fast time when we struck a steep grade running down into a valley. The track was built on a ledge running along the side of a high hill. On one side the cliffs towered perpendicularly 250 feet, and on the other sloped away rapidly about 90 feet to the bottom of the ravine. The track ran partly round the hill, so we couldn't see very far ahead of us at any time. Well, we had a heavy train, and, although we put on brakes as soon as we struck the grade, the speed of the train rapidly increased. When about half way down we saw a cow standing on the track. There was no way of escape, for had it run to one side it would have fallen into the ravine. However, the animal became frightened at the whistle and started to run down the grade between the rails. The situation was critical. If the cowcatcher failed to knock the cow off the track and into the ravine at the first impact there was no power on earth could prevent the train with all its passengers from going over. It was impossible to stop. The situation flashed upon both the engineer and myself in a moment. Only a few seconds would elapse before we should overtake the animal. In an instant I threw off the brakes and the engineer opened the throttle and gave her a full head of steam. The engine jumped forward like a cannon ball, and in a couple of seconds we struck the cow. The force of the impact was sufficient to stagger the engine, but it was also enough to prevent the animal from getting under the wheels. The mass of bruised flesh and bone was thrown out over the ravine, and we were saved. I saw the animal turning somersaults as it fell into the depth below."—[St. Paul Pioneer Press.

A Night in a Barcelona Hotel.

The first night in Barcelona, guided by a Spanish priest, I went to a sort of posada in one of the by-streets, and managed to get a room by paying in advance one peseta, which was rung on the table with an evident suspicion of its genuineness. Having two days' railroad grime upon me, I thought it a comparatively small favor to be allowed to wash my hands. On timidly inquiring of one of the servants, I was led to a little toy tin affair containing water, and was furnished with a towel about large enough to dry the hands of a medium-sized clock. But when I asked for soap, I was stared at in a manner that made me very uncomfortable. I have not asked for soap since in Spain, for I do not wish to lose my life by violence, having voted for slow death by starvation in the cause of American art.

The bill of fare at this hotel was inclosed in a thick frame of wood that weighed about ten pounds, and it was dropped upon the table like a load of bricks in a way that made my teeth rattle. After his Herculean feat the waiter stared calmly at me with a cigarette between his lips, waiting for me to recover myself. Why should lodgers wish to steal the bill of fare? I give it up; I leave the question to philosophers; I have puzzled my brain long enough on this subject.

The supper ended; I went to bed. I have not yet forgot the odor that hung about that bed-room. It made me miserable, suspicious, too, of dread things to come. So I put a six-shooter under my pillow. There was a gas jet in the room. Aha! thought I, here is at least some sign of progress. But in the small hours of the night, arising to investigate something, I put a match to the burner and turned the cock in all directions. The gas had left the premises. And I left them, too, the next morning by the early dawn.—[Correspondence Boston Transcript.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

BRANT.

A Paris lad named George Buckley, while climbing up the steep hill on the banks of the Grand River near the park, and when near the top of the hill, slipped and fell a distance of nearly 30 feet. Fortunately he was not seriously hurt.

As Jacob Shuert, St. George, was returning home the other evening he had a very narrow escape from death. While passing a crossing a buggy came rapidly up. The driver did not see Mr. Shuert, and he was knocked down, the horse and vehicle passing over him. He was picked up, placed in a conveyance and taken to his home, where upon examination he was found to be seriously cut and bruised externally and internally. Mr. Shuert being over 75 years of age his condition is looked upon as very serious.

Miss Rebecca Patten, has died at the residence of her father, Hugh Patten, St. George, in the 30th year of her age. The deceased has been an invalid for many years, during which time she has borne her sufferings with patience and fortitude.

On Thursday a Brantford man named Gradwell was rescued from drowning by a citizen named Kerr.

The other morning the residents at the dwelling house of William Sumner, Brantford township, were startled to find Mrs. Sumner dead in her bed, having passed away during the night. The lady retired the night previous apparently as well as usual, enjoying good health. Deceased was considered a healthy woman.

ELGIN.

Mr. Freeland, Houghton township, has been appointed fishery inspector.

A wild steer which was being loaded for shipment at the G. T. R. freight shed in St. Thomas a few days ago broke away, and was found at Mr. Barrett's farm, Yarmouth. Messrs. J. Campbell and R. Small succeeded in capturing the animal Thursday morning and brought it back behind a load of hay. The unruly animal twice upset an empty wagon to which it had been fastened.

Jacob, the 9-year-old son of Henry Mahoney, carpenter, St. Thomas, died Thursday morning. Two years ago the lad was kicked by a half-witted companion and never recovered from the injuries received.

Mrs. Mary Gray, of Fingal, died Thursday morning, aged 73 years. She leaves four sons—Thomas in Chicago, George in Port Stanley, William in St. Thomas, and John in Fingal.

Dr. T. W. Schlenker, graduate of the class of 1891, Toronto University, died Thursday at Ridgetown. He was in his 25th year.

ESSEX.

For some time it has been the custom of the landing waiters at the Windsor ferry to allow merchants to take small parcels through upon their leaving the invoices at the customs office, to be paid some other time. This has caused so much inconvenience that an order has been issued doing away with such a practice.

Chas. VanZandt, for stealing papers at Windsor, will spend 30 days with Sheriff Iler.

An accident to the machinery caused a stoppage of Windsor's electric cars Thursday morning. They were started again at 11 o'clock.

Mrs. Johanna Blantye, aged 94 years, has died at Amherstburg. She had lived there for 30 years.

GREY.

A terrible accident occurred on the farm of Henry Lisk, on the 19th concession of the township of Keppel, about three miles from Wiarton, a few days ago. Mr. Lisk's son George, a lad of some 14 years, was driving a load of grain to the barn when a portion of it fell off and he went with it. His father was at the barn, and noticed the team coming without a driver and with only a portion of the load. He went and stopped them and saw his son walking as if hurt. He went to his assistance and carried him to the barn, and laid him down while he procured water. The lad could not drink and he was taken into the house, when he started to bleed from the nose, ears and mouth, and died instantly. It is supposed that in the fall he ruptured a blood vessel.

Fred Armstrong, Flesherton, caught a peculiar fish in Beaver River, near Kimberley, which measured 26 inches in length and weighed 3½ pounds. It was an ugly looking fellow, and nothing like it had ever been caught in the river before. Consultation of an encyclopedia revealed the fact that it was a ling.

KENT.

A 12-year-old daughter of Wm. Jackson, con. 6, Chatham, was leading a cow to water on Wednesday, when the animal became unmanageable and ran. The rope being wound round her hand the poor girl was dragged round the yard several times, and she is thought to be seriously hurt.

While threshing at B. Gallagher's on Wednesday, Anthony Fobert, of Chatham, met with a misfortune. He was assisting to put the machine in the barn, when the tongue swung round and struck his leg, breaking it at the ankle joint.

Many friends will regret to hear of the death of Miss Savage, sister of Mrs. B. Paine. Deceased, about a year ago, entered Harper's Hospital, Detroit, as a nurse. About a week ago she was taken with an attack of inflammation, and in spite of the utmost skill died on Saturday. The remains were interred at Petrolea.—[Ridgetown Standard.

What might have been a serious accident on the G. T. R., so far as loss of life is concerned, took place near Mr. Brunker's, the other morning. Mr. Cowan's bull and four cows got on the track as the express was passing, and the bull and three of the cows were killed, while the fourth cow had its leg broken. The bull was pitched over 100 feet. The cars were not derailed, and the only injury to the train was the smashing of the cow-catcher.—[Chatham Banner.

Mr. J. G. Pennefeather, ex-collector of Chatham, is visiting his brother-in-law, Supt. Macdonell, of the Northwest Mounted Police, Fort Macleod, N. W. T.

LAMBTON.

Some thief or thieves stole a horse from the premises of John Allingham, lot 20, con. 10, Moore, the other night. The missing nag is a heavily built, dark sorrel horse, 10 years old, thirteen hands high, with a white stripe in the face.

The Sarnia Street Railway Company have issued lay-off checks, which can be secured by parties wishing to stop at the park or be transferred to tunnel cars. The fare from Point Edward to the tunnel is 5 cents, and passengers desiring to stop at the park or Sarnia may secure a stop-over check.

The date of the Bosanquet fair, to be held at Thedford, has been changed to Friday, Oct. 15, so as not to clash with the Forest fair, which will be held on the 6th and 7th of October.

The campers at Kettle Point have returned home.

MIDDLESEX.

About 25 of the members and friends of the Hide Park Excelsior Reading Circle took the excursion on Wednesday to Sarnia. Arriving there they embarked on the Mary and sailed to Algonac, a distance of about 30 miles down the river. Returning they reached Port Huron about 5 o'clock, where, having spent a short time, they took the ferry to Sarnia and returned home, arriving at Hyde Park at 9 o'clock. All who went expressed themselves as having enjoyed a most delightful day.

The apple crop is poor in the Lucan district.

Joseph H. Patrick, of Ilderton, and F. H. Neil, Maple Avenue Stock Farm, Lucan, have made an addition to their stock by the importation of a very fine lot of Lincoln sheep from the noted flock of Mr. Wright, one of the largest breeders of Lincoln sheep in England.

D. Shoff, license inspector for Middlesex, has completed his returns for last quarter, having made 87 inspectoral visits during the term.

James Lamb, of Mosa, is dead. Deceased came to this country from England when only 20 years of age. Landing in Montreal, he came to Hamilton and then walked through the woods to Wardsville, returning by the same route after a time to Palermo, where he married Mary Miles. From there he moved to Aldborough, doing the first day's work on the Graham road. He afterwards removed to the farm a mile west of Newbury, where he lived till a short time before his death. The deceased was an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

OXFORD.

Squire Freeman, of Princeton, who has been seriously ill, is recovering.

A meteorite was found at Woodstock a day or two ago by John Ovens which had fallen there during a thunderstorm. It is described as about five and a half by three inches, and is most curiously formed, presenting the appearance of a bunch of macaroni, or of long, thin roots held together by some softer composition.

PERTH.

The first shipment of apples from St. Marys this season was made by E. Cubbon the other day. The apples were sent to Chicago, Illinois.

The death has occurred in Stratford of Mrs. Alex. S. Gourlay. She was married on June 7, 1891, not quite a year and eight months ago, and leaves an infant 11 months old. Deceased was born in the Gore of Downie in 1868 and came to Stratford with her father, Samuel Robb, about six years ago, and has resided there ever since. She was a consistent member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and was highly respected by all her acquaintances.

WATERLOO.

A serious accident has happened to the wife of H. Krug, of Berlin. She was driving her horse on Frederick street, when the animal took fright and ran away. The lady was thrown violently out, sustaining painful injuries in the face. She was removed to a neighboring house, where medical aid attended her.

The number of tramps visiting Berlin during the past few weeks is in excess of any previous year. At one time there were twelve camped about a mile from the town near the railway track for over a year.

James Bell, an employe of a farmer living in Puslinch, on a wager unloaded a large load of peas in less than five minutes. It took two men all their time to carry the unloaded peas away.

Dr. Wm. Kerr, one of the oldest residents of Galt, died recently in his 90th year. He leaves two sons and one daughter.

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