

Saint Mary's Beacon

(Continued from 1st Page.)
was certain to be a pretty severe punishment.

The effect of the imagination upon one of a nervous temperament, who had read stories of men dying from the bite of the tarantula, has been furnished us by a friend, and with which we will close our article.

A party of Sacramentans had returned home from a trip to the mountains, bringing with them two deer-skins, one wild-cat-skin, and a few other trophies, including two tarantulas,—dead ones.

The tarantulas, for lack of a better receptacle, were inclosed in a cigar-box when caught, some ten days previously, and this box, carefully tied up, was deposited beneath the seat of the vehicle. While they were jolting through the canyon the seat slipped, and the two men occupying it found themselves dropped suddenly into the bottom of the wagon.

One of them struck the cigar-box, crushed it, and immediately felt that something had hurt him. A glance showed him that he was resting on the tarantulas, and with a yell of, 'I'm stung! I'm stung!' he jumped from the wagon, and dashing his hands behind him, he ran wildly along the road, then turned and made for the wagon, shouting to his amazed and greatly alarmed companions,—

'Whiskey! Quick! I'm dying! Why don't you hurry!'

The other three men—there were four in the party—reached simultaneously for the demijohn, broke off the cork in their haste to pull it out, and in an effort to knock off the neck of the demijohn to save time, broke the entire concern, and nearly all the contents were lost.

About a pint of the liquor was saved, however, and the person who was bitten swallowed it. Soon he began to feel better, and eventually felt so remarkably well that it was evident the poison had been forced to succumb.

Then the work of straightening up the contents of the wagon was commenced, and the tarantula-box was carefully lifted out and examined, when, behold! the 'bugs' were found perfectly lifeless, and so dry and stiff that it was evident that they had been dead more than twenty-four hours, while two tacks in the broken cover of the box conveyed a very good hint as to the nature of the injury which the bold hunter had declared to be tarantula-bites.

WOMEN'S.—Woman's Rites—making her toilette.
Woman's Wrongs—4 shoes for 7¢ feet.

Woman's Mission—Submission.
Woman's Aim—Three feet wide of the park.

Woman's Work—Half of the divorce suits.

Woman's Place—In the van, where ever there is a bustle.

Woman's Wit—Making the best of the want of it.

Woman's Resources—The mirror and the store window.

Woman's Tact—Tacking her stay-sails.

Woman's Will—Will o' the wisp.

Woman's Winning Way—Jilting poor Jack for a title.

Woman's Tongue—Never still long enough to be described.

AN EXCEPTION.—'I don't think there is a man living but cares for public opinion.'

'I don't think Smith does.'

'What makes you think he doesn't?'

'He carries his molasses home from the grocery store in a demijohn.'

'You do wrong to fish on the Sabbath,' said a clergyman to a lad whom he saw doing so.

'Well, sir,' replied the little fellow, 'it can't be much harm, for I haint coched nothing.'

'Provide yourself with a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and so have the means at hand for contending successfully with a sudden cold. As an emergency medicine, it has no equal, and leading physicians everywhere recommend it.'

WARMED HIM.—'How is it that you look so warm and cheerful on this cold day?'

'Well, I have just had a talk with the oldest inhabitant, and he remembers winters when it was twice as cold as this.'

HE FOUND IT WAS.—Judge (to prisoner)—you are charged with having seriously injured your wife by inclosing her in a folding bed. What have you to say for yourself? Prisoner—Your honor, I wished to see if it was possible to shut her up.

Weather Proverbs.

If spiders in spinning their webs make the termination filaments long, we may, in proportion to the length, conclude that the weather will be serene and continue so for 10 or 12 days.

If many gnats are seen in the spring, expect a fine autumn; if gnats fly in compact bodies in the beams of the setting sun, there will be fine weather.

If the garden spiders break and destroy their webs and creep away, expect rain or showery weather.

The various quadrupeds, of course come in for their share of prophesying, and among the weather 'rules' received regarding them have been the following:

If sheep, rams and goats spring around in the meadows and fight more than usual, expect rain.

If cattle leave off feeding and chase each other around the pasture, rain.

If cats back their bodies and wash their faces, rain.

If foxes and dogs howl and bark more than usual; if dogs grow sleepy and dull, rain.

If moles cast up hills, rain.

If horses stretch out their necks and sniff the air and assemble in the corner of a field with their heads to leeward, rain.

If rats and mice be restless, rain.

The feathered forecasters have given rise to the following:

If peacocks and guinea fowls scream and turkeys gobble, and if quails make more noise than usual, rain.

If sea birds fly toward land and land birds toward the sea, rain.

If the cock crows more than usual and earlier, expect rain.

If swallows fly lower than usual, expect rain.

If bats flutter and beetles fly about, there will be fine weather.

If birds in general pick their feathers, wash themselves and fly to their nests, rain.

Some of the queerest miscellaneous quips received are to the effect that:

If there are no falling stars to be seen on a bright summer's evening you may look for fine weather.

If there be many falling stars on a clear evening in the summer there will be thunder.

A rainbow in the morning is the shepherd's warning.

If the marigolds continue shut after 7 o'clock in the evening, expect rain.

If fish bite more readily and gambol near the surface of ponds and streams, then look out for rain.

If porpoises and whales sport about ships, expect a hurricane.

The moon, of course, is the subject of many of the best weather predictions. Great confidence is placed in the old prognostic:

I saw the new moon late yestreen
Wi' the old moon in her arm,
And if we're going to sea, master,
I fear we'll come to harm.

It is also said of the moon that 'if the new moon appears with the points of the crescent turned up, the month will be dry. If the points are turned down, it will be wet.'

THE COLONEL'S DUELS.

A most vindictive duel was fought during the reign of Louis XVI by a colonel of the French guards. This gentleman was boasting of the good fortune of never having been obliged to fight a duel. Another officer expressed his surprise with some indirect allusions to the colonel's lack of courage, observing: "How do you avoid fighting when insulted?"

The colonel answered that he had never given offense, and no one had ever presumed to insult him. Moreover, that on such an occasion he would consider the character of the person who had presumed to insult him ere he demanded satisfaction. Upon this statement his interlocutor, in the most insolent manner, struck him in the face with his glove, saying: "Perhaps, sir, you will consider this an insult?"

The colonel calmly put on his hat and walked out of the room. The following morning he sent a challenge to his aggressor. When they came to the ground the colonel wore a patch of court plaster of the size of a crown piece on the cheek which had received the blow. At the very first lunge he wounded his antagonist in the sword arm, when taking off the plaster, he cut off an edge of it with a pair of scissors, and, replacing it on his face, took leave of his adversary, very politely requesting he would do him the honor of letting him know when he recovered from his wound.

So soon as he heard he was able

to hold a sword the colonel called him out again and wounded him a second time, cutting off another portion of the patch. In a like manner he called him out, fought and wounded him until the plaster was reduced to the size of a three penny bit, when the colonel once more challenged him and run him through the body. Then, calmly contemplating the corpse with an evil smile, he observed: "I will now take off my plaster."

WHAT A FRIEND IS.—This is a prize definition:

The first person who comes in when the whole world has gone out.

The following are some of the definitions submitted:

A bank of credit on which we can draw for supplies of confidence, counsel, sympathy, help and love.

One who considers my need before my deservings.

The triple alliance of the three great powers, love, sympathy and help.

One who understands our silence.

A jewel whose luster the strong acids of poverty and misfortune can not dim.

One who smiles on our fortunes, frowns on our faults, sympathizes with our sorrows, weeps at our bereavements, and is a safe fortress at all time of trouble.

One who, gaining the top of the ladder, won't forget you if you remain at the bottom.

One who in prosperity does not toady you, in adversity assists you, in sickness nurses you, and after your death marries your widow and provides for your children.

The holy of life, whose qualities are overshadowed in the summer of prosperity, but blossom forth in the winter of adversity.

He who does not adhere to the saying that No. 1 should come first.

A watch which beats true for all time and never 'runs down.'

All insurance against misanthropy.

An earthly minister of heavenly happiness.

A friend is like ivy—the greater the ruin the closer he clings.

One who to himself is true, and therefore must be so to you.

The same to-day, the same to-morrow, either in prosperity, adversity or sorrow.

One who combines for you alike the pleasures and benefits of society and solitude.

One who is a balance in the see-saw of life.

One who guards another's interests as his own, and neither flatters nor deceives.

A 19th century rarity.

One who will tell you of your faults and follies in prosperity, and assist you with his hand and heart in adversity.

One truer to me than I am myself.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Wednesday, January 4, 1893.

Ill-health will be the ground upon which pardon for Stevenson Archer will be asked.

By a decision of the Supreme Court of Oregon a Weaver elector will get his certificate.

Governor Brown has not decided what action he will take with regard to the youthful murderers of Dr. Hill.

Democrats and populists organized the Montana Legislature and a Democratic U. S. Senator is said to be assured.

The Wyoming contest has been decided in favor of the Democrats and Gov. Osborne has possession of his office.

The senatorial contest in Kansas is complicated by a proposed fusion between republicans and populists.

A decision of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania declares the publication of Sunday newspapers in that State illegal.

Preparations are being made for the execution January 27, at Elkton, of Alfred Stout, colored, for the murder of George Dittmar.

The Nebraska House of Delegates was organized by the Democrats and independents. No organization was effected in the Senate.

It is reported at Frankfort, Ky. that Senator John G. Carlisle has been tendered and will accept the post of Secretary of the Treasury in President Cleveland's cabinet.

Chairman Carter, of the republican national committee, testified before a Senate sub-committee in reference to charges brought to prevent confirmation of Mr. Louis E. McComas as judge.

Violent snow-storms prevailed throughout Austria and Hungary yesterday. In Italy the weather is very severe snow having fallen for hours in Rome. In France many persons have been frozen to death.

Thursday, January 5, 1893.

Both Houses of Congress re-assembled yesterday after the holiday recess.

The steamers of the Maryland oyster police report that the ice has pretty nearly put an embargo on oystering.

The Senate committee on woman suffrage reported an amendment to the Constitution of the United States permitting women to vote.

The republicans of the Massachusetts Legislature nominated Congressman Henry Cabot Lodge to succeed Hon. Henry L. Dawes in the United States Senate.

A joint democratic caucus has been called at Albany to meet on Tuesday evening, January 10, to select a candidate for United States Senator. No candidate has appeared in opposition to Edward Murphy, jr.

A bloody battle between a sheriff's posse and a mob took place at Bakersville, N. C., on Tuesday night, in which eleven of the officers and ten members of the mob were killed. The attacking party was composed of 500 masked men, who demanded that Calvin Snipes, charged with the murder of Isaac Osborne, be turned over to them. The sheriff refused and the fight ensued. The prisoner was taken from the jail and lynched.

Capt. A. S. Higbee, of the schooner Lida J. Lewis, reported to the custom-house yesterday, the drowning of Frank Jones, a colored hand on the vessel, on December 20. Jones was twenty-four years old and a native of St. Mary's county. The drowning occurred eight miles from the Frying Pan light-ship. The wind was blowing a gale at the time, and Jones was engaged in pumping water from the vessel, when a heavy sea was shipped, washing him overboard. A line was thrown to him which he caught, but in attempting to pull him aboard the line broke and he was drowned.

The continual succession of boils, pimples, and eruptions from which many suffer, indicates an impure state of the blood. The most effective remedy is Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It expels the poison harmlessly through the natural channels, and leaves the skin clean and clear.

The passage of an act providing for the election of United States Senators by the people is hoped for at the present session of Congress.

Lane's medicine moves the bowels each day. In order to be healthy this is necessary.

The Imperial Cholera Commission in many has announced its discovery of a wine—claret or hock—will kill the bacilli of cholera in a few minutes. Tea will kill them in an hour.

Coughing leads to consumption. Kemp's Balsam stops the cough at once.

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