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PART II.

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IN THE HOT WATER

William Alden Smith Writes of Mexican Baths.

HE SEES MEXICO AS SHE IS

And Gives His Impression of This Egyptian Land of America—Homes and Habits of the Mexicans.

ANGUOS CALIENTES, Mex., Jan. 10.—Since our departure from Grand Rapids we have seen many novel and interesting sights, varying from the huge mountains, rearing his lofty head, crowned with perpetual snow, high into the air, to the balmy, fertile valley nestling in the more favored but less striking location below. We have shared the generous hospitality of the railroad guild in every state traversed and seen much to edify, enlighten and instruct. California certainly abounds in resources calculated to satisfy the most greedy, with a climate suited to the most fastidious taste and prosperity enough to make it thoroughly enjoyable. But it remains for Mexico to supply the traveler with novelties of the most "crimson hue," and from the moment Manager Heald's car, "84," was attached to the Central Mexican railroad and we entered this Egypt of the new world, to the present time the attractions have increased in novelty and wonder. After a ride of three days and nights from Pasa Del Norte we landed at the famous mining city of Zocotecoas and leaving our car proceeded on an inclined railway to the neighboring city of Guadalupe, made famous by its great cathedrals and monasteries which have withstood the elements and the severe trials of revolution upon revolution for over three hundred and fifty years, still retaining the attractiveness and substantial architecture and rich interior that characterized the efforts of its Spanish founders, with altar railings and interior trimmings of gold, beautifully set off on foundations of solid onyx.

Worship Within the Shrine.

Huge iron doors with grated bars keep the worshipers from the richer apartments, except on feast days, when a quickened spirit of generosity is expected to animate the devotee who falls full length at its golden base, and in feverish supplication seeks consolation from the inanimate figures of Saint Francis and the Patron Saint Guadalupe. While we were there many overburdened souls crept on their knees from the street to the sanctuary, and with facial evidence of great pain poured out their burden to the god of their hearts, their swarthy faces and great black eyes literally bathed in expectant devotion, the vast majority with scarcely clothing enough to cover their bodies, "sombrero" and "zerape" with the ever-present revolver and sword, they looked formidable enough outside the temple, but within were apparently most humble believers in divine will. The streets of Guadalupe are narrow, the buildings low adobe structures with thick walls and grated windows, giving to the buildings the appearance of workhouses or prisons, lending some credence to the story of the Montana man, who passing the house of a Mexican merchant and seeing a woman seated within in evident meditation handed her a dollar note saying, "Take this sio; I have been here myself."

Policemen Can Be Found.

No city is too poor to have its public plaza and from these places military bands discourse delightful music at almost every hour of the day. Flowers bloom the whole year through. In the center of San Marcus plaza a hugh fountain supplies a great basin with water from which the picturesque water carrier with gourd in hand fills its earthen bucket and delivers the fluid on her shoulders about the city, earning, perhaps, thirty cents for her hard day's labor. Soldiers and policemen seem to an observer to constitute a large part of the Mexican population, and their presence at railroad stations and in public places dressed in gay attire, with rifle, sword and revolver, are not calculated to impress a stranger with confidence in the stability of their republic. But when we are reminded that the soldiery is largely made up of criminals, banditti who are sentenced by courts to service in the army, it is perhaps well to make their service as conspicuous as possible. The uniform of the Mexican policeman as we have seen it is certainly striking. A white cap, blue overcoat, white trousers and barefooted, he presents a picture not calculated to excite the envy of the Broadway squad. However, you can always find a Mexican policeman after dark, as the regulations require him to carry a lantern, and while standing the light must be placed in the middle of the street to indicate the officer's whereabouts.

Scenes About the Baths.

We left Guadalupe the following day for Anguos Calientes, from which point I decided to give the readers of THE HERALD the benefit of our strange experience. The hot water baths of Glenwood Springs, of which I have heretofore written were both novel and enjoyable. But the hot water baths of Anguos Cahentes discount anything previously experienced. The hot water gushes out of the mountains into a huge pool hot enough to boil an egg, and is then separated into different pools called private and public baths. The latter is a ditch running clear across the city about three feet wide and five feet deep. In this ditch, constructed by the municipality, the vast majority of the people in this city of twenty thousand inhabitants promiscuously bathe in the warm water, and from 10 o'clock in the morning until 3 in the afternoon hundreds of people, men, women and children, can be seen at this wholesome pastime, and the trees and bushes on the banks are liberally covered with white attire, which is first washed and hung up to dry in the sun before the bath begins, and up and down the ditch little children by the score are playfully running about, while their only child apparel is being washed or drying in the sun. Baths in this ditch are the free gift of the municipal authorities to its people; the ditch traverses the center of the city, starting from the railroad station, and its indiscriminate use by the people of both sexes is the result of custom established years ago. The only requirement is that bathers shall keep in the water and not unnecessarily display themselves to the passing trains. After the bath, senoritias can be seen by the score, lazily lying about in the sun drying their long black hair; I might add that donkeys, dogs and goats are not over looked in this wholesome family enterprise, and if a scrutinizing observer should detect among the myriad bathers the head or trunk of a familiar four-footed biped, he should not be astonished for the bath is public in every sense of the word.

Cock-Fighting General.

The climate of Anguos Calientes is delightful at this season of the year. Strawberries are ripe and served fresh here the whole year through, and they are a sweet and refreshing fruit to us who are only favored a few weeks in the year. The markets are a curious sight, embracing among customers and dealers a motley throng of humanity. At almost every stand a game-cock will be seen, tied by one leg, while every few steps a native can be seen carrying a blooded rooster in his arms ready for a medio (six and a quarter cents) to fight his chicken against the world. Chicken fighting is a common pastime with the Mexican people, while lottery tickets, roulette and gaming of every sort is as common in front of cathedrals as the fruit stand and coffee vendor. Our stay here has been both novel and interesting and we leave tonight for Mexico City, the city of poverty, idleness, luxury and wealth, where after spending a few days among the ancient relics of this old and interesting center of the ambitions of so many Spanish kings and priests, with its galleys, parks, cathedrals and palaces, we will continue our journey into the tropical regions through the famous scenery of the Orizaba valley to Vera Cruz and the Gulf of Mexico.

WILLIAM ALDEN SMITH.

AFRAID OF DISEASE.

Smallpox Kills a Miner Who Had the Measles.

The fear of the grip, now on its winter tour, reminds me of the smallpox scare in California some years ago. Smallpox was raging in 'Frisco and also in Eureka, Humboldt county. A miner went from Eureka on horseback up to a gold mine by the name of Gold Bluff, situated some sixty miles north of Eureka, on the coast, and after a two days' trip on a rough trail he arrived there, almost exhausted from a bad cold he caught in fording a stream soon after starting.

The miners called it smallpox, for want of something better, and would not let him stay in camp with them, so he was compelled to camp in a hollow redwood tree the first night after his arrival.

The next morning, behold, his skin was all broken out and the miners bound him on his pony and started him down the trail toward Eureka. You can imagine his ride, down a rough trail, burning with fever, aching at every joint, but he had to either go, or die there alone. He arrived there insensible, hanging on his pony. A doctor was called who pronounced it smallpox, and he was sent to the pest-house. After a more thorough examination, it was decided that he had the measles, but he was now in the pest-house, and had to stay there. After an extended fight with the measles he was at last convalescent, but while in that state he caught the smallpox and died.

This man's death can safely be laid to the excitement of the people's mind and their morbid fear of disease, so don't be in too much haste to decide on anything as important as a man's life.

SLEEP TOO PROFOUNDLY.

Why We Do Not Remember Everything We Dream.

During the period of deepest sleep the function of the brain is so weakened that we retain no recollection of what may occur. Sometimes we know that we have dreamed, but are wholly unable to recall a single trace of that which has engaged our thoughts, says the Brooklyn Eagle. But shortly before we awake our dreams become more lively and connected, and for this reason are more easily retained by the memory. "Morning dreams come true," is a saying interpreted by the physical state of sleep being then less perfect; trains of thought suggested follow more nearly the course of waking associations, and the memory retains them, while earlier and more confused dreams are wholly lost to the mind. Again, persons are to be found who, when they speak much during sleep, are unable to remember their dreams on waking, yet recollect them perfectly if they do not speak. This fact is easily accounted for. Probably when we are silent the mind is more directly upon the subject of the dream, and not so likely to be distracted from it. There is perhaps another explanation. When we dream of speaking, or actually speak, the necessity of using language infers the exercise of some degree of reason, and thus, the incongruities of the dream being diminished, its nature becomes less striking and consequently less likely to be remembered.

HIS QUEER DESIGN.

A Floral Pair of Stockings to Warm the Feet of His Dead Mother.

A young man who is employed as a crape puller for a prominent florist tells an amusing story in the Philadelphia Record of one of his experiences.

Crape pullers, be it known, are men whose duty it is to ring the door bells of houses where the insignia of death are displayed and solicit orders for floral designs for the funeral.

"I went to a house in a down-town court," said the young man, "and after being admitted produced the book of designs. I knew my people. They were of the class that would spend forty dollars for flowers and stand off the undertaker and doctor without compunction. The dead person was a woman, and I encountered her two sisters, who selected handsome designs and paid me something on account. The dead woman's four-year-old boy was sitting in the room, and one of the aunts suggested that a design should be shown when the corpse was 'laid out' as coming from the child.

"'What would you like to give your mother, James?' she asked.

"James looked up with a pleasureable look in his eyes and lisped: 'A pair of stockings. She hasn't none to be buried in, and they'll keep her feet warm under the ground.'"

PEN TIPS ON CHILI

Howard Fielding Writes of the Situation.

HUMOROUS PICTURES OF FACTS

The War Rumors Dissected, and the Alarming Reports Analyzed—One-Legged Veteran of New York.

I have a one-legged uncle in the interior of New York state who fought during the late war and found the occupation very grateful to his disposition. He takes a deep interest in everything relating to bloodshed, and therefore he followed with almost painful attention the progress of our recent attempts to arrange a short scientific "go" with Chili.

Knowing that I was connected with the newspapers, and could get all the information necessary to sustain any given opinion on any given subject, he wrote requesting that I should send him a few clippings from which he could get a clear view of the situation. I have always tried to do my duty by this bloody-minded old sinner, and consequently I clipped and sent him one day's dispatches from the leading papers of the metropolis. They ran as follows:

MY UNCLE.

Washington date.—The rumor that the Baltimore had been sunk by a torpedo in the harbor of Santiago is vehemently denied by Secretary Tracy. The fact that Santiago is in the interior and is, therefore, seldom visited by vessels, coupled with the information furnished by your correspondent a week ago that the Baltimore is no longer in Chilian waters, lends color to the secretary's denial, though under ordinary circumstances it is better not to believe anything he says.

Paris date.—Chili's formidable warship, the Capitan Prat, is being rapidly hurried to completion at Toulon. She will be ready for sea day after to-morrow, if the necessary work can be done in time. The contractors, however, are of the opinion that they should have six months. Every patriotic American will agree with them.

Washington date.—The report that the legislature of Colorado had voted $6,000,000 for harbor defenses for the city of Denver excited much comment among retired naval officers here. Capt. B. J. Horn, who is familiar with the locality, says that the sum is entirely inadequate. It was subsequently learned that the appropriation was six dollars, and was intended for the relief of the state house janitor, who ruined a pair of custom-made pantaloons cleaning the furnace. But war talk is rife in the capital to-day.

Machiasport (Me.) date.—Two men believed to be Chilian spies have been arrested while engaged in a survey of the harbor. Their names are Samuel Smith and Edward Jones. They claimed to have been hauling lobster pots, and confessed on cross-examination that they were reaping where they had not sown. They were held on a charge of vagrancy, as the police could think of nothing else. It is not considered criminal down here to haul another man's lobster pots. It is hoped that government detectives will secure evidence before the charge of vagrancy can be dismissed, as the only magistrate we have has gone gunning forty miles back of this place. Jones has resided here for thirty-seven years and owns a comfortable home, while young Smith lives with his parents.

SUPPOSED CHILIAN SPIES.

Washington date.—The rumors of a satisfactory agreement between this country and Chili are not generally credited to-night. Secretary Blaine and Minister Montt had an interview to-day, in the course of which Mr. Blaine inadvertently gave Senor Montt a cigar which he had received from a western congressman. War is now believed to be inevitable.

Augusta (Me.) date.—The best political judges here believe that the complications with Chili have made the nomination of Blaine a practical certainty. The Blaine Campaign club, of Falls Mills, will hold a fair next month with the proceeds of which they hope to buy a fine banner to carry next fall.

Indianapolis date.—President Harrison's firm stand in the Chilian matter has endeared him to his party. If the nominating convention should be held to-morrow there would be nobody else in it.

Here were included two special articles comparing the naval strength of Chili with that of the United States. One of them showed conclusively that we were absolutely defenseless, and our vessels could offer only a transitory and feeble resistance. Secretary Tracy was quoted as saying that three weeks after a declaration of war the Chilian fleet would hold the Pacific coast, and open a bombardment which would drive every human being west of the Mississippi river into his cyclone cellar.

The other compared our cruizers and other pleasure craft, one by one, with the vessels of Chili, and showed clearly that we could enter Chili's harbors unopposed and batter down the Andes mountains with our cannon. Secretary Tracy was quoted as saying that the navy was on an efficient war basis, and that the whole department was spoiling for a fight.

Following these came a dispatch under a Washington date to this effect: "A special cabinet meeting was held today and the attendance was large, considering that there were matinees at all the theaters. The proposal of Secretary Rusk to mention nitrate fertilizer in complimentary terms in the next annual report of his department is believed to be the best way yet suggested by which this country can recede from its position without loss of dignity."

Valparaiso date.—The rumors current here that a mob had surrounded the house of Minister Egan raised the wildest excitement, and nothing but war talk is heard on the streets. When subsequent information came to the effect that the mob was composed of the members of the Santiago brass band, assembled for the purpose of serenading Minister Egan, comment was general that he had got no more than he deserved. It is impossible to comprehend the hatred of everything American which prevails here. A detachment of police has been ordered to watch Mr. Egan's residence, and his request for an armed force to watch the police has been refused.

Local item.—The monitor Miantonomoh started on her trial trip this morning. It is reported that if everything works well and nobody is seasick she will proceed at once to Chili.

Washington date.—Sir Julian Pauncefort, the British minister, called upon Secretary Blaine to-day. Although no human being but themselves has the remotest idea of what they talked about, your correspondent is credibly informed by a person high up in diplomatic circles that Sir Julian assured Mr. Blaine of England's intention to preserve peace even if she had to whip both Chili and the United States to do it. The secretary replied thanking the minister for his interest in this country and expressing the hope that Sir Julian would not catch the grip.

There were also a large number of clipped dispatches which were interesting as showing in what a wonderful way news will get around. There was a story, under a Chicago date, which came from London by way of Galveston, Tex., and related that the London Times had printed a cable from New York to the effect that a merchant, whose interests lay largely in Chili, had heard from a man in Mexico, who had received secret advices from a friend in Iquiqui, that the war feeling in Santiago had been stirred up by a story that Admiral Brown, in San Francisco, had chartered a large sea-going flatboat which might be used for the transportation of anything on which a satisfactory insurance could be obtained, in case of hostilities between the United States and Chili. Following this was an interview with Secretary Tracy, obtained by the correspondent of the Hohokus (N. J.) Globe, and telegraphed from that important center to New York. It denied the story about Admiral Brown.

MAGAZINE OF THE EGGNOGG.

A local story described the willingness of the New York Yacht club to put its fleet at the service of the navy department in case of war. It was suggested that Billy Boozer's fine steam vessel, the Eggnogg, could be utilized to good advantage. She should be cleverly left at the mercy of a Chilian ironclad which would, of course, capture her. A United States war vessel should then keep the ironclad in sight and wait until the contents of Capt. Billy's famous "medicine chest" has produced its natural effect upon the captors, after which their own destruction would be easy.

The one-legged veteran read my clippings, and I have before me his letter thanking me for them. He writes that with their help he now understands the Chilian situation as well as anybody else does, and I am inclined to believe him.

HOWARD FIELDING.

So Fashions Change.

"That woman had an awful disappointment with her new hat."

"I can't imagine how."

"It took her so long before the glass to see if it set right that the next season's style was out before she had a chance to show it."—Philadelphia Times.

Rare Sport.

Mabel—Have you ever noticed how Polly Wanter is making game of young Mr. Cashly?

Maud—If you mean that she's hunting him—why, yes.—Judge.

Western Wedding Presents.

"What do you think would be the most appropriate gift for a Chicago couple?"

"A divorce, most likely."—Puck.

The Society Drama.

Mr. Fussaite—Does that actress make mush money, I wonder?

Miss Witham—I bet her dressmaker does.—Puck.

At the Turkish Bath every Tuesday afternoon and evening and Friday forenoons reserved exclusively for ladies.

CAN IT BE CURED?

Paresis a Disease Which Baffles the Doctors.

TESTIMONY OF FIVE EXPERTS

On This Canker of Modern Life—It's Symptoms Described—How to Escape It's Fell Power.

"Do you remember the blanched faces, the furtive glances, the trembling limbs and the strange mysterious horror which Thucydides describes in the Athenians when that highly civilized race first became aware that an incomprehensible and incurable malady had suddenly broken out among them?"

The speaker was Dr. Allan McLane Hamilton, perhaps the most famous American expert in diseases of the brain and nerves, the government expert in the historic Guiteau case and the head of New York's professional specialists in neurology. He had answered a question by asking one. It was entirely natural that in my search for the secret of paresis, the strange new and deadly curse of contemporary civilization, I should go to the expert by whom such noteworthy paretics as Robert Garrett, once president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company; John McCullough, Bartley Campbell, Tony Hart, and now poor Scanlan, have been treated. "Professional etiquette," that barrier which tradition maintains between common sense and the medical practitioner, forbade Dr. Hamilton, of course, to speak of these and others of his patients of whom the reading public might learn with profit. But for the sake of the good that it might do, and the mysterious awe it might dispel from the minds of those to whom the fear of paresis blots the fairest prospects in the world, Dr. Hamilton did consent to make this statement:

DR. ALLAN M'LANE HAMILTON.

"This plague of our newer civilization is not infectious like that wonderful malady which Thucydides describes. It doesn't strike our foremost men down over night, or clutch its victims in the market place. And, as mysterious as it appears to the laity, its nature and symtoms are now thoroughly well understood by the expert. But there is unquestionably a fascination about it, from the psychological point of view, on account of its remarkable increase of recent years as well as by reason of the deadly persistence with which it drags its victim, no matter how high or how humble his station in life, how wild or how quiet his previous habits, down into the grave.

"General paralysis, or general paresis, familiarly spoken of simply as paresis, has been known to medical science about fifty years, but the fatal significance of the term and the individuality of the awful thing it stands for, seem only to have begun to dawn on the public vision very recently. You are probably right in surmising that ten or fifteen years since the word 'paresis' was new to newspaper readers, and from the first its victims seem to have had their melancholy fate aggravated, if possible, by the vague suspicion, if not the open accusation, that in order to have been overtaken by this curse of our nerve-wearing, tissue-wasting civilization, they must first have been guilty of some fearful excess, some indescribable indulgence, as a punishment for which, in ancient times, fire was sent even from Heaven.

DR. WILLIAM A. HAMMOND.

"A great deal of melodramatic nonsense of that kind has been retailed about town by innuendo and in stage whispers audible almost from one barroom to another.

"And it is all wrong; to have paresis a man needn't necessarily have been outbreakingly wicked. It is no reflection on a man's family for him to fall a victim. Its chief cause, primarily, is dissipation of some sort; it may be intellectual, it may be physical, but not necessarily disgraceful per se. Yet a very large proportion of cases of paresis are due to a malady unmentionable, except in professional treatises.

"How does drinking, pure and simple, result in paresis? Simple enough. Excessive use of alcoholic stimulants produces repeated congestion of the brain, and so weakens and diseases the blood vessels that they naturally develop paresis. It is the curse of our modern civilization, the most fatal and mysterious of any now known to medical science."

Here was richness, to begin with. Repeated, Katzenjammer might certainly end in paresis!

Dr. Charles L. Dana, one of the psychological experts called in to see Banker E. M. Field when his friends first began to make up their minds that Banker Field had lost his mind when he had lost their money, is a tall, dark man of sedate manner and a broad, calm brow behind which mental processes of moment would seem likely to proceed to unbiased and unerring conclusions. Most mental experts, indeed, seem to be tall, dark men of calm acuteness of demeanor. Dr. Hamilton combines the intuitive precision of a pastmaster with the courtly manners of a cavalier. No doubt the brain specialist of the next generation will be expected to hypnotize his patients, to begin with, in order to demonstrate mental strength enough to warrant their submission to his counsel. The personality of the physician becomes indeed of more importance with every new advance of medical science.

Dr. Dana agreed to speak of this subject now so powerfully focused in the public eye by the Scanlan, De Maupassant and other cases.

"Great confusion exists in the public mind," said Dr. Dana, "about the meaning of paralysis or paresis. There may be a partial paralysis of the muscles of any part of the body or of the muscles of all parts of the body. So there may be a total paralysis of the muscles of a portion of the body, or a total paralysis of the muscles of all parts of the body. This last is often called 'paresis.'

"Now paresis, the popular name of which used to be 'softening of the brain,' is the term applied to a stage of the malady which results in this general paralysis. Indeed these synonyms are worth remembering:

"General paralysis of the insane.

"Progressive paralysis of the insane.

"General paresis and

"Paralytic dementia.

"The peculiarity of paresis is that it is complicated by insanity, and while I have spoken of 'softening of the brain' as being the term once popularly applied to it, the actual fact is that a paretic's brain becomes, if anything, hardened, as the surface of the brain tissues becomes inflamed and congested.

"I do not hold that paresis is an incurable disease. While the fact that a patient recovers may be thought by some to invalidate the diagnosis of paresis, it does not follow, to my mind, for I believe cures have been effected.

"Paresis is comparatively a new medical term, and in popular parlance the word has not been in use much, if any, more than ten years, I believe.

"It is a disease of the brain tissues, you may say, of the mind tissues, those outer portions of the brain in which the most highly developed cerebral processes go on. The disease has fortunately marked physical symptoms. Fortunately also, it is not hereditary. That is one of its peculiarities.

"Although there may be a popular impression to that effect, I do not think actors have fallen victims to paresis—the accent, strictly speaking, is on the first syllable—in greater numbers than members of other professions."

This is a noteworthy opinion in view of the roll of such names as Bartley Campbell, John McCullough, Tony Hart, Hawley Chapman, Charles E. Blanchette and W. J. Scanlan.

Dr. William A. Hammond, retired surgeon general of the United States army, and president of the American Neurological association, says that paresis is now probably the best known in its symptoms, pathology and morbid anatomy of all the forms of mental derangement.

"General paralysis," says Dr. Hammond, "is the most common of all mental affections, perhaps. The most suspicious of all the circumstances which may indicate the inception of general paralysis is a gradual but obvious alteration in the mental characteristics of the individual. He forms relations, often with women, which are matters of surprise to those who have long known him; he makes investments such as no prudent man would make. He may perpetrate frauds of various kinds, or commit obscene acts under circumstances which are almost certain to result in detection. Many distressing instances of general paralytics of the highest respectability being arrested for petty thefts have been reported. A general state of exhilaration, different from the patient's ordinary manner and feeling, may exist for several months, or even years, before any more obvious symptom makes its appearance. Among the earliest of the mental symptoms generally noticed, when the disease is fully established, is an excessive anxiety in regard to matters which are really of no great importance. The patient becomes regardless of his personal appearance. Neglects to change his linen and appears in public half dressed. His memory fails rapidly and his acts are eccentric and absurd. A patient of mine sent home a wagon load of snow shovels, another purchased all the turkey eggs he could get, and the other drained the florist of tulip bulbs. In the vast majority of cases the slight mental depression which exists in the beginning of general paralysis, disappears either suddenly or gradually, and exaltation takes its place. A tendency to erotic delusions, almost reaching to the extent of satyriasis, and a marked increase in sexual appetite and power are often witnesses. In my experience the first sign of loss of power, one which is sometimes observed before any evidence of mental derangement, is a slight defect of articulation due to paralysis of the lips. The words 'national intelligencer' are almost impracticable to the general paralytic, and in trying to pronounce them he concentrates his whole attention on the act. Headache is generally a symptom from the very beginning. It is a notable characteristic of paralysis that remissions in its intensity generally occur, during which the symptoms abate in violence and the patient's friends imagine he is certainly recovering. The duration of general paralysis is variable. Sometimes death results in a few months and at others it may be deferred for five or six years. The average period is about three years. General paralysis is almost invariably fatal."

J. P. B.

Lily White.

The Valley City Milling Company has no peer in the manufacture of flour. Try the LILY WHITE.

IT WILL BE COLDER

Mr. Foster Predicts a severe Spell of Weather

FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

A Cold Wave Followed by Gales and a Blizzard—The New Philosophy of Meteorology Explained.

ST. JOSEPH, MO., Jan. 22.—My last letter gave forecasts of two storm waves, one to cross the continent from January 18 to 23, and the other from January 24 to 29. The next storm wave following these will be due to reach the California coast about January 31, cross the western mountains by the close of February 1, the great central valleys from February 2 to 4 and the eastern states about February 5. This will be one of the fiercest storms of the winter west of the Mississippi river, especially on February 2 and 3. It will effect the whole country between St. Louis and Denver and from Mexico to Minnesota. A snow storm, a blizzard, gales and drifting snows may be expected. The cold wave will enter the upper Missouri valley about February 3, and its effects will be felt far into the southern states, causing cold weather as it moves eastward, all over the country from Colorado to Maine. This cold wave will probably reach Florida about February 4 or 5. After passing east of the Mississippi both the storm center and the cold wave will lose force. The cold, however, will be quite severe in the region of the upper lakes about February 4 or 5, but not so cold in the northeastern states.

The New Philosophy.

The electric theory of creation, astronomy and meteorology is rapidly cutting its way to the front. For fifteen years a half dozen meteorologists in the United States have been waging a ceaseless conflict with orthodox scientists as to the cause of motion. Following after the nebular theory the scientific world builded a great structure containing sciences, all based on the idea that heat is the cause of motion. A few of us have contended that electricity is the cause of motion and that heat is only an effect of which electricity is the cause. In this contest we have been ridiculed and called all manner of contemptible names. We have constantly made progress and obtained a hearing and followers among the masses, who are now more intelligent, better educated than ever before in the world's history. But every step has been stubbornly contested, and everything for the electric theory gained at the sacrifice of long and tedious efforts. The whole world of orthodox scientists begin to feel that they are in error and that we are in the right, but many of them are too cowardly to acknowledge the truth. Occasionally one of these court scientists, most of them are "book-learned dudes," proves his independence of thought by coming boldly to the front and declaring for the electric theory. Prof. Bigelow is one of these. He is connected with one of the eastern universities, and although he is too selfish to acknowledge that others, long before he saw the light of truth, had discovered that nature works through electric forces, still he deserves commendation for refusing to longer follow the heat theory.

The Sun is a Magnet.

Prof. Bigelow, in a recent paper, declares that the sun is a magnet, and that the solar corona consists of the electric currents that flow out from the sun over its equator, and after forming a semi-circle in space flow back to the sun at the poles. He does not describe it in exactly these words, but his description coincides with these ideas. Theographs of the eclipsed sun proved a fact that had been discovered by analysis many years ago, and Prof. Bigelow's discovery proves the electric theory to be correct. But there are many old fogy meteorologists, astronomers and physicists, whose stock in trade would suffer great depreciation if they should give up the old nebular theory and its consequent, the heat theory of force, and therefore they, being convinced against their desires, will pretend to hold the same opinion still. It is very inconvenient to change base, and although they will be forced to admit the existence of the sun's electric currents moving through space, they will be slow to admit that the sun is not hot. But what will they do with the fact that these electrical currents cannot exist in the presence of great heat? The whole scientific world is moving toward the electrical theory, but the present generation will well nigh have passed away before practical results can be attained, if we wait for the old school of scientists to unlearn what they have learned amiss. The old usually perishes with its errors, and the new is almost universally upheld by new hands.

W. T. FOSTER.

CHINESE POOL.

A Game That Is Very Popular Among the Celestials.

In the rear room of a Chinese washhouse on Clark street can be seen nightly a game of "Chinese pool" running at full blast. This game, says the Chicago Times, is a combination of the American pin-pool, roulette and rondo. On a ragged and jagged second-hand billiard table is placed at one end a board about one foot square. The board is on a gradual incline, so that a billiard ball can run upon it. On this board are twenty-four holes, at the bottom of each there is [illegible] ing from one to [illegible]. The small numbers are near the large ones. The player stands at the end of the table and shoots the billiard ball from a point parallel with the board. The ball rebounds or "ricochets" from the opposite end of the table, rolling [illegible] upon the board and settling upon one of the numbers. An expert player can gauge the force of his shot so that the ball will roll about half way up the incline and settle on one of the large numbers, perhaps. But, when the ball hovers on the edge of a large number and rolls down upon a smaller one the excitement among the Chinese is more intense than a similar instance in the great American game of roulette. An inexperienced player will shoot wildly and the ball, after rolling upon the board, will roll off and half-way across the table, much to the amusement of the jeering and jabbering crowd.